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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1841.

REVIEWS

Elementary Course of Civil Engineering. By D. H. Mahan, Professor of Engineering in the Military Academy of the United States. Edited by Prof. Barlow. Orr & Co.

Description of the Canals and Railroads of the United States. By H. S. Tanner. New York. Public Works in the United States of America.

Edited by W. Strickland, E. H. Gill, and H. R. Campbell, Civil Engineers, U.S. London, Weale.

These works indicate the rapid advancement of Civil Engineering in America, both as a practical art and a liberal profession. Our reluctance to admit that our American brethren have attained any degree of superiority over us, either in the institutions, arts, or customs of civilized life, is a weakness of which we have reason to be heartily ashamed. It partakes too strongly of wounded vanity to deserve the name of nationality. The neglect with which we have hitherto treated the achievements of the engineering talent of the United States, is an error which we do not hesitate to avow.

Two circumstances of opposite character have contributed to render the public works of America less attractive to the European engineer than those of this country. Their magnitude, on the one hand, the abundance of material on the other—their magnitude, the immense tracts to be traversed by the railways and canals, have demanded a rigid economy of cost, inconsistent with the usual display of ingenious and beautiful monuments, which it is the practice of engineers, in older and wealthier countries, to erect to their own reputation and the wealth of their employers. The profusion of material, so easily adapted to the varied expedients of a youthful engineering, has tended to the same result. In this country, the adaptation of form to purpose, by which the smallest quantity of an expensive material is rendered equal to the greatest effort, forms the highest triumph of the constructive art. No such triumph is possible in America, where Nature's profuse supply of gigantic timber has done half the work of the engineer. The art which triumphs over difficulty, becomes not less perilous than the tricks of the juggler, when it creates difficulties, for the mere display of useless talent in conquering them. The American who would throw aside the profuse stores of the best timber strewn all around the lines of his works, to exhibit the clever devices of ingenious carpentry, might shine on paper, but would prove his own incapacity to conceive and supply the wants of his country. The abundance of timber on every spot where it is required, determines the predominance of its use; and consequently deprives the architect and engineer of the materials for immortality or extravagance. It is only in the selection of his route, the general system of his construction, and the great arrangements of his principal works, that the American engineer can display talent or acquire reputation.

Extensive utility, economical execution, immediate returns—these are the great desiderata of American engineering. A country so wide, and in immediate want of so many new lines of communication, cannot squander the millions at its disposal on the embellishment of a single line. To make a railway or canal on a scale so comprehensive, and with works so gigantic, as ever to supply the utmost demands of commerce, and supersede all possible improvement—works that shall endure for ever, and hand down the name of their constructor to posterity—such is often our aim; and here, the perma-

nence of works is often of the highest and first importance. There, on the contrary, the delay of a single year in the completion of the undertaking, the necessity for one additional million, the delay of returns for money expended,—these in America are evils of the first class, which, if incurred to a considerable extent, would prove infallible bars to the progress of the most important engines of commerce, wealth, and civilization.

We think that the engineers of the "New Country," as well as those of the old, have fallen into errors in opposite extremes; and that each might borrow from the other with mutual advantage—perhaps our transatlantic brethren might do well to imitate the greater solidity and permanence of our works, so as to avoid by an immediate expenditure, much greater loss in the cost and interruptions of frequent repairs. But from the American engineer many of our countrymen might, in their turn, borrow with advantage. We have before us, the disastrous results of extravagance in the construction of works on public lines of railway. The evils attending excessive expenditure, even while the capital may not on the whole be a losing investment, are great—it discourages similar undertakings, it exhausts the public wealth, it deprives other districts of new communications—it prevents the extension of numerous branches by exhausting funds on the principal trunk;—it impoverishes the country without adequate return. Why should public works last for ever? This is an all important question not sufficiently weighed; the reply is somewhat startling—it is pretty nearly this: if a structure will endure for 20 years, and cost a given sum of money, it will be cheaper in the end than a structure which would last for ever, if it should cost double of the first. If this be true, then it is only too plain that much of the capital invested in our public works has been sunk in magnificent buildings to no good purpose. The Americans found this out long ago, and even here the more shrewd of our capitalists have already begun to make a similar discovery.

Suppose then a question to be agitated regarding a new line of railway, whether the bridges shall be of timber or of stone; that is to say, whether they shall cost 100,000*l.* or 300,000*l.*, which is about the proportion, the one to last some twenty to twenty-five years without repairs, and the other for ever and a day. Perhaps this question involves the very existence of the railway—perhaps, in the one case, it will pay a fair interest on the smaller capital, and in the other case it will not—the question whether the district shall or shall not have a railway, may depend on this question. Let us look at the result—thus: the timber bridge costs 1,000*l.*, lasts twenty years, and requires an occasional coat of paint—the stone one would cost 3,000*l.*; suppose this sum of 3,000*l.* in the hands of the proprietor, and he prefers the timber bridge at 1,000*l.*, placing the remaining sum of 2,000*l.* in the funds; at the end of twenty years he finds that the accumulated interest has not only doubled his capital of 2,000*l.* and made it 4,000*l.*, but has also paid for the painting and slight repairs of his bridge, and with his 4,000*l.* he may now build, if requisite, a new timber bridge, at an expense of 1,000*l.*, and replace, untouched, the whole of his original capital.

In like manner it will follow, that a timber bridge costing only half of a stone one, and lasting twenty years, will be cheaper in the end than a stone bridge, lasting for ever; because the other half of the capital thus saved would, in twenty years, more than double itself, or reproduce the whole sum of the original investment.

This truth, though it has not perhaps ever

before been formally recognized, has been powerfully felt in America, and acted on to a certain extent, practically, at home. On some of the railways in the North of England, bridges of great beauty and strength, wholly formed of timber, have been constructed by eminent engineers, with great practical good. Even the inconvenience of repair, when ultimately it shall take place, has been evaded by the ingenious contrivance of diminishing the magnitude of the parts, and so arranging them in duplicate, that one after another they may be successively renewed without injury. This is frequently the case in the beautiful structures of the line from Newcastle to Carlisle—a line to the success of which these plans have materially contributed.

The timber bridges of America are justly celebrated for their magnitude and strength. By their means the railways of America have spread widely and extended rapidly. We have no doubt that by the greater introduction of the same material at home the benefits of railway intercourse may receive a much wider extension than under the present system we can venture to hope.

From what we have said regarding the economy of construction in American railways, it must not be inferred that there are no works of magnitude, permanence, and expense, on these lines. We have stated the average total cost of all kinds as under 5,000*l.* a mile. On the Providence and Boston Railway, we have at Canton a granite viaduct 700 feet long and 60 feet high, across the valley of the Neponset River. On the road there are 1,200 feet of wooden bridging, with spans of 30 to 125 feet, besides considerable embankments and rock cuttings. On the Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad is a viaduct 984 feet long, embankments of 80 feet, an incline rising 187 feet in 2805, worked by a stationary engine of 60 horse power, with an endless rope nine inches in circumference. On the Alleghany Portage Railroad are ten inclined planes, one tunnel 901 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 19 feet high, four extensive viaducts, one with an arch of 80 feet span and 70 feet high: at each inclined plane two engines of 35 horse power each. In a length of 36 miles, this railway has of excavation more than 300,000 cubic yards of common cutting, 200,000 of slate or detached rock, 500,000 of hard clay, 200,000 of solid rock, 900,000 yards of embankment above 100 feet in height, and about 15,000 cubic yards of solid rock tunnelling. On the Baltimore and Ohio Railway there are 33 important viaducts, and four inclined planes.

The extent of communication by railways in America is truly surprising. They cover the United States like the meshes of a net. About 7,000 miles of railing have already been made or are in actual progress. This would be incredible in a country where capital is so valuable, were the railways laid out on the same expensive scale with ours. British railways have cost from 20,000*l.* to 50,000*l.* a mile. Those of America have not cost, on the average, including buildings and all requisite investment, more than 4,500*l.* per mile, being from one-fourth to one-tenth of the expense of British railways; that is to say, a given sum of money expended in America has provided the benefit of railway communication to an extent of from five to ten times as great as an equal one in Great Britain. Although these lines were not originally laid out on a pre-arranged plan, yet the detached lines have gradually been connected, so as to form continuous routes of great extent—some of the companies owning different portions of connected lines have found it convenient to amalgamate—the route between Baltimore and Philadelphia consisted of four companies on four

parts of the line, which are now incorporated in one company, under a single board of management. One great chain of railroad, commencing at Portsmouth, in New Hampshire, extends across the United States to Pensacola, in Florida, a distance of 1,600 miles.

"From Portsmouth the Eastern Railroad extends to Boston, thence the line is continued by the Boston and Providence Railroad to Providence, where it meets the railroad to Stonington in Connecticut. From Stonington, after crossing Long Island Sound to Greenport, on Long Island, the line is resumed, and proceeds to Brooklyn, opposite New York, by the Brooklyn and Long Island Railroad, about 28 miles of which are completed and in use, the remaining 72 miles are now in progress. Crossing the East River to New York and thence over the Hudson to Jersey City, the line is continued by the New Jersey Railroad to New Brunswick, thence by the Trenton and New Brunswick Railroad to Trenton, and thence to Philadelphia by the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad. From Philadelphia it proceeds to Baltimore by the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad, and thence to Washington by the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The road from Washington to Fredericksburg, in Virginia, though proposed, is not yet commenced. At Fredericksburg, the line is resumed, and proceeds to Richmond by the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad, thence to Petersburg by the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, thence by the Petersburg and Roanoke Railroad to Gaston, in North Carolina, thence by the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad to Raleigh, whence it is proposed to construct a railroad to Columbia, in South Carolina. From Columbia the line is conducted to Blanchville, and thence by the main line of the South Carolina Railroad to Augusta, in Georgia. At Augusta commences the Georgia Railroad, which extends to De Kalb county, whence a road to West Point on the Chattahoochee is in progress. From West Point, the line proceeds to Montgomery, in Alabama, and thence to Pensacola in Florida. In the entire length of this extensive line, there are but four sections wanted to render it complete, videlicet, one from Greenport to Hickstown, Long Island; one from Washington to Fredericksburg; one from Raleigh to Columbia; and one from De Kalb in Georgia to West Point. The aggregate length of these railroads, nearly all of which are completed and in use, is 1,600 miles. Should the State of Virginia execute her projected railroad from Richmond via Abingdon to the Tennessee line, a route to New Orleans will be effected by means of the Highwassee, Knoxville, and Nashville railroads now in progress."

The mode of constructing the permanent way in the American lines is one of the main peculiarities of the transatlantic system: when the road has been "graded," that is, reduced to an uniform way of earth, and covered with the sand, broken stones, or gravel, which constitutes what we call in this country, "ballasting," a trench is dug longitudinally under the whole line of each intended rail—in this is laid a continuous series of long balks of timber, about six inches deep by eight or nine inches wide, and to this the name of the "sill" is given. Across the sills, at distances of three feet, are laid transverse sleepers of timber of about the same scantling with the sills, but notched above and below, so as to fit exactly the longitudinal sill; on these sleepers, and at right angles to them, so as to be parallel to the longitudinal sill are laid long balks of timber, forming a longitudinal bearing or support to the rail, and to this the appellation of string piece is given. The string piece supports the rail, which is laid uniformly along its centre, and attached to it with screws and spikes. The rail, which rests on the stringer, is generally about 50 lb. weight. The following detailed account of construction and expense, as ascertained on the Baltimore and Deposit Railroad, from the excellent work of Mr. Tanner, will exemplify this mode of construction, and give our engineers a sufficiently close estimate of its value and cost:—

"It was graded to a width from 18 to 22 feet, with the view of gradually increasing the breadth of the road bed in the future course of repairs. The railway structure employed, consists of a sill under each line of rails, of sawed white pine 6x8 inches in the section, and of various lengths from 12 to 40 feet. Those sills are laid on their flat sides in longitudinal trenches of a width and depth equal to the section of the sills, whose upper surfaces are therefore in the plane of the graded surface of the road. Upon the sills are placed at uniform distances of three feet from centre to centre, cross ties of white oak and chestnut. These cross ties are eight feet in length, and of two sizes in the section, the larger being 8 inches and the smaller 6 inches diameter, clear of bark at the small end, the larger and smaller sizes being placed alternately along the track. Each cross tie has four notches in it, two on the lower side of a width of 8 inches, equal to that of the greater dimension of the under sill, and two on the upper side 7½ inches wide in the middle, with a slant to accommodate the wooden key used in wedging fast the upper string piece; the thickness of wood left between the notches is invariably 2½ inches. The lower notches embrace the under sills, which fit them accurately enough to prevent injurious lateral movement endwise of the cross tie, when it is laid and adjusted; in doing which shallow cross trenches are dug to receive the rounded portion of the cross tie descending below the top of the sill. The cross ties receive no other dressing than the notching to receive the sill and string piece. In the upper notches of the cross ties rest the string pieces 6x6 in the section, of Norway or Carolina yellow pine. Upon a portion of the track a string piece 5x6 was used to make up the deficiency in the supply of the quantity required of the larger scantling. The string pieces are laid in the manner usual in the railways in which they have been used in connexion with the plate rail. The rail placed upon the string piece is a bar weighing 40 lb. per lineal yard of a nearly rectangular section 2½ inches wide at bottom; 2½ full wide at top, and 1½ inch high. The lengths of the bars vary from 17 feet 9 inches to 18 feet 3 inches, their ends are cut off obliquely, at an angle of 60 degrees with the line of the rails. They are perforated vertically by five holes ½ of an inch in diameter, and of a circular section for 1½ inch from the bottom of the rail upwards, the remainder of their depth, next to the top of the rail being enlarged longitudinally of the rail, so as to form a counter sink of half an inch deep and 1½ inch long by full ½ wide. Two of the holes are 1 inch in the clear from the ends of the bar, and the intermediate three are at equal distances from each other, and from those at the ends, of about 4 feet 6 inches. The ends of the bars at their joinings are supported upon chairs or splicing plates of rolled iron, 5½ inches long by 4½ wide and ½ of an inch thick. These plates have two small ledges or beads on the upper side, extending the entire length of the plate, parallel to each other, and a distance apart in the clear, equal to the breadth of the bottom of the rail which rests between them, and is prevented by them from moving to either side. Each plate has two holes in it, corresponding to those in the end of the bars. Through these holes, and others in the same vertical line bored through the string piece, are passed bolts of about 9 inches long, with heads shaped so as to fill the counter sinks in the upper part of the holes in the bar, and with threads upon their lower ends, upon which a nut is screwed up against the bottom of the string piece without any washer, thus holding the rail down upon the splicing plate, and securing it from rising. The joinings of the bars are thus, by the bolt, and the ledges upon the splicing plate, kept in exact position. Through the intermediate holes in the bar are driven spikes 6 inches long, and going ½ into the wood, with heads shaped to fill their counter sinks, like those of the bolts. The heads of the bolts and spikes are thus left full, and are driven hard into the counter sinks so as to fill them up as accurately as possible, and afterwards dressed or chipped off even with the top surface of the rail, to preserve its smoothness and continuity. The rail is placed in the middle of the string piece, and the joinings are made to fall between the cross ties, to allow of the screwing on of the nut at the bottom of the bolt. This is managed by some attention to selecting the

bars with respect to their length, and in some cases by moving the cross tie along the track a sufficient distance, which can never exceed about half of its own breadth. No respect is paid to making the joints of the two lines of rails hold any fixed position with regard to each other.

The cost of the above described railway has been per mile very nearly as follows:—

	Dollars.
42,240 feet bd. measure, under sills, 6x8 at 13.32	562.40
dollars per mile	562.40
1,700 cross ties, notched and delivered on road bed at 32 cents	544.00
35,000 feet bd. ditto string pieces, 6x6, inclusive of wedges for fastening strings in cross ties, at an average 18.40 dollars per mile	644.00
586 splicing plates, weighing 1,025 lb. at 6 cents	61.30
1,172 screw bolts for ends of rails, weighing 879 lb. at 13 cents	114.27
1,758 spikes for intermediate holes, weighing 1,055 lb. at 13 cents	137.15
Transportation of materials by land and water	175.00
Workmanship of laying track	600.00
Cleaning out ditches, raising embankments, and dressing road bed	180.00
63 tons of rails, at 62 dollars per ton, delivered in Baltimore	3,906.00

Dollars 7,000.00

The returns from capital invested in public works in America, are exactly what we should expect from the economy with which they are constructed and managed. It is matter of doubt whether public works that do not remunerate deserve to be regarded on the whole as benefits to the community. While the average charge for passengers is about 2d. a mile, the average profits are 7 per cent. per annum. Not only do the canals and railways remunerate their owners, but they are likewise prolific sources of revenue to the State. In the State of New Jersey, for instance, the transit duties levied upon passengers and merchandise conveyed by canals and railroads now in operation, furnish an annual sum sufficient to pay the ordinary expenses of the State government—and with this surplus revenue it is proposed to purchase for the State, the whole property of these works, an arrangement for reimbursing the shareholders having been made in the charters. In this view, the prudent State has retained to herself the property of these works, and only regards the stockholders as tenants on improving leases—these circumstances are thus stated in the second work at the head of our article:—

"Thus it will be perceived, that although individuals in their corporate capacity have advanced the necessary funds for the construction of those works, and though New Jersey has not advanced or loaned a dollar towards it, still the fee is in her, and not in them. They are truly mere lessees for a term of years only, and the State can, and unquestionably will, dissolve all corporations whose works yield a net income beyond the current interest of the State, whenever that term expires. The relation that exists between the corporation in such cases and the State is simply that of landlord and tenant, with leave to improve under limitations and restrictions dictated by the State, and acceded to and ratified by the former. Under these arrangements the State has abundant reason to be satisfied. She gave nothing and gains everything, and has thus furnished to her own citizens and the public a communication as cheap, safe, and expeditious as any in the United States, and completed for the country one of the most important links in the chain of communication between the north and south."

The State of Pennsylvania appears to have adopted a different course, more enterprising but less successful. She has made railways at her proper expense, to the amount of about 5,000,000l. on which she obtains returns of not more than five per cent.; the peculiarities of these works are, however, such as to have been attended with more than ordinary expense. It is, however, remarkable that the expense of working these lines is an unusually low percentage on the income—frequently less than 20 per cent. on the gross revenue.

The work of Mr. Tanner is full of valuable

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statistics in regard to the canals, as well as the railways of America: indeed, the whole work is to be regarded much more in the light of a statistical than an engineering treatise. Some of these canals are of a very extraordinary character. The Welland Canal, after traversing thirty miles with only a single lock of eight feet, descends suddenly by a continuous chain of locks through a depth of about 340 feet, by thirty-four successive locks, to the level of Lake Ontario, between which and Lake Erie it serves as the communication. In like manner the Lehigh Navigation rises by a succession of locks at short intervals in 46 miles to a height of 361 feet above the Delaware. But of all these, the Erie Canal, one of the earliest, is also one of the most important public works of America. It is 363 miles long—it is 40 feet wide at top, 28 at bottom, and 4 feet deep; there are 84 locks on the main line, each 90 feet long and 15 feet wide; the summit level is gained by locks rising to the height of 630 feet—one of the aqueducts is 1,188 feet long, and there is one part of the canal perfectly level for 70 miles. The general course of the canal is a little north of west.

*Leaving Albany, it passes along the right banks of the Hudson and Mohawk, crossing the latter at Middletown, following the left or north bank of the Mohawk about twelve miles, it recrosses that river over what is termed the 'upper aqueduct' pursuing the south bank of the Mohawk through Shenectady, Schoharie, Canajoharie, and Little Falls village, it enters the flourishing town of Utica, 108 miles by the canal from Albany, continuing its course along the southern bank of the Mohawk by Whitesboro, Rome, Lenox, Syracuse, Jordan, Montezuma, Lyons, Palmyra, Pittsford to Rochester (distant 160 miles from Utica), where it crosses the Genesee by a splendid aqueduct, 804 feet long, built of hewn stone, and supported by eleven arches. From Rochester the canal assumes a more western direction until it reaches Lockport, after passing the towns of Brockport, Albion, Middleport, and some other 'ports' of lesser note—distance from Rochester to Lockport 63 miles. At Lockport, the canal ascends the mountain ridge by eight double combined locks, each 12.4 feet rise. Nine miles from Lockport the canal enters Tonawanda creek at the little village of Pendleton, from which to Tonawanda village, situated at the mouth of the creek, and distant from the former about ten miles, the canal is identified with the Tonawanda. At a further distance of twelve miles this magnificent work terminates at the city of Buffalo.

The work of Professor Mahan gives such a condensed view of most of the branches of elementary engineering as may serve for a good introduction to the larger works to which it every where refers the student. It is however too short to be of much value to the professional man, and too technical for the non-professional reader. Perhaps it is sufficiently detailed for the use of the military engineer, for whom the author had more especially designed it.

We have already noticed the difference in the style of public works which circumstances rather than choice have forced upon the American engineer. That some at least of these differences might be grafted on our British system of engineering as real improvements we have admitted, and it is therefore with great pleasure that we receive the two parts of the 'Public Works of America' which have just been issued by Mr. Weale. The Gas works of Philadelphia are arranged with great judgment; and the capability of indefinite extension is important, in relation to the condition of the increasing demand of a growing town, but they are hardly of sufficient novelty or importance to the British public to occupy thirteen folio plates of this work. This remark applies equally to the Delaware Breakwater, the Philadelphia Water Works, and the Bryd Creek Aqueduct, all very respectable works, most creditable, but scarcely sufficiently

new or important to demand a place in the collection of American engineering. On the other hand, the Dam across the Gwatare, the Locks on the James River and Kanawha Canal, the Dam of the Sandy and Berner Canal, the Farm Bridges, and other timber structures, are characteristic and instructive specimens of transatlantic talent. We trust that the work will be continued, and that the future numbers will be devoted to those specimens of engineering in which the American mind, escaping from the fetters of European routine, has displayed the fertile and inventive genius of original construction. The engravings of this work are good, and the whole is creditable to the artists, the publishers, and the engineers.

Merrie England in the Olden Time. By George Daniel. 2 vols. Bentley.

AMONG the foolish pranks of James I., there was none more whimsical than his attempt to make a nation joyous by royal edict. The appearance of the Book of Sports banished mirth from the country. In vain did grave bishops exhort to the practice of athletic games, and learned divines demonstrate the innocence of the social dance—in vain was the Maypole erected on the green, and the butts set up in the field beyond the church; the people would not be amused according to law; they would not dance to the king's pipe, nor accompany it with their own labor. Great as was the blunder of the self-styled Solomon, he has had no lack of imitators; only, their folly has manifested itself in a contrary direction—they would put down sports and pastimes, May games, and Christmas gambols, and make man good by making him dull. This is the prevailing tendency of our modern meddling legislation. Out upon all such folly, we say,—and welcome once more merry Christmas—and George Daniel and his quaint companions, the laureate of Little Britain and uncle Timothy. We love to have a gossip about by-gone times, to search for Old London in the New, and to hunt out the haunts of old favourites, from Chaucer and his Pilgrims at the Tabard in Southwark, to Bonnel Thornton and his merry associates. 'Thou shalt be our companion, George Daniel, for thou art a merry and assuredly a "conceited fellow." Let us then seek out the snug parlour of some ancient hostelry such as thou hast described:—

"In the narrowest part of the narrow precincts of Cloth Fair there once stood a long, rambling, low-roofed, gable-fronted hostelry, with carved monsters frightfully deformed, and of hideous obesity, grinning down upon the passengers from every side. Its exterior colour was a dingy yellow; it had little antique casements, casting 'a dim, if not a 'religious light,' within; the entrance was by a low porch, with seats on each side, where, on summer days, when leaves are green, the citizen in the olden time might breathe the fresh air of the surrounding meadows, and rest and regale himself! The parlour was panelled with oak, and round it hung the March to Finchley, the Strolling Players, and Southwark Fair, half obscured by dust, in narrow black frames, with a tarnished gold beading. An ancient clock ticked (like some of the customers!) in a dark corner; on the high grotesquely carved mantel-piece piped full-dressed shepherds and shepherdesses, in flowery arbores of Chelsea china; from the capacious ingle projected two wooden arms, on which the elbows of a long race of privileged old codgers had successively rested for more than three centuries; the egg of an ostrich tattooed by the flies, and a silent aviary of stuffed birds, (monsters of fowls!) which had been a roost for some hundreds of generations of spiders, depended from a massy beam that divided the ceiling; a high-backed venerable arm-chair, with Robin Hood and his merry men in rude effigy, kept its state under an old-fashioned canopy of faded red arras; a large fire blazed cheerfully, the candles burned bright, and a jovial party, many of whose noses burned blue, were assembled to celebrate for the last time their noc-

turnal merriments under the old roof, that on the morrow (for improvement had stalked into the Fair!) was to be levelled to the ground."

So this venerable old parlour is to be swept away to make room for some flaring French-polished mahogany jimcrack after the fashion of the hour. Well, be it so, we shall all be swept away in turn; so give us a song, George; there is a raciness in thy lyrics which leaves behind a smack and a relish—

A bumper at parting! a bumper so bright,
Though the clock points to morning, by way of good night!
Time, scandal, and cards, are for tea-drinking souls!
Let them play their rubbers, while we ply the bowls!
Oh who are so jocular, so happy as we?
Our skins full of wine, and our hearts full of glee!

Not buxom Dame Nature, a provident lass!
Abhors more a vacuum, than Bacchus's glass,
Where blue-devils down, and where merry thoughts
swim—

As deep as a Quaker, as broad as his brim!
Like rosy fat friars, again and again
Our beads we have told, boys!—in sparkling champagne!

Our gravity's centre is good vindigraze.
Pour'd out to replenish the goblet concave;
And tell me what rubies so glisten and shine,
Like the deep blushing ruby of Burgundy wine?
His face in the glass libo smiles when he sees;
For Fancy takes flight on no wing like the bee's!
If truth in a well lie,—ah! truth, well-a-day!
I'll seek it in 'Vino',—the pleasantest way!
Let temperature, twanky, testotallers trumpet;
Your sad, sober swiggers at 'Veritas' pump!
If water flow hither, so crystal and clear,
To mix with our wine—'tis humanity's tear.

When Venus is crusty, and Mars in a snuff,
Their tipple is prime nectar-toddy and stiff,—
And shall we not toast, like their godships above,
The lad we esteem, and the lady we love?
Be goblets as sparkling, and spirits as light,
Our next merry meeting! A bumper—good night!

Very good: Bacchus himself could not have done the subject more justice. But here is friend Bosky, with a singing face: he loves punch too, punch that brightens the wit, loosens the tongue, gladdens the heart, and reconciles the soberest of sad fellows to himself and all the world—

Punchinello's a jolly good fellow!
Making us merry, and making us mellow.
In his bowl, in the fair too, a cure for dull care too;
All ill that we find flesh or skin and bone heir to!
Verily he is the spirit of glee,
So in him drink to him with three times three!

Come, Bosky, no prelude, but strike up at once.—Well I know it; but whiskey punch, though not the genuine nectar, is not to be despised. Quick then, or Father Mathew may be here ere Christmas and our revels are over:—

Come merrily push round the toddy,
The cold winter nights are set in;
To a roquelaire wrapp'd round the body
Add a lining of lamb's wool within!
This liquor was brew'd by my grandain,
In a snug quiet still of her own;
'Tis fit for my Lord in his tandem,
And royal King Will on his throne.

In the glass, see it sparkle and ripples,
And how it runs merrily down!
The absolute monarch of tipples,
And richly deserving a crown!

Of nirth 'tis the spring and the fountain,
And Helicon's stream to the Muse;
The pleasantest dew of the mountain—
So give it, good fellows, its dues.

It opens the heart of the miser,
And conjures up truth from the knave;
It makes my Lord Bishop look wiser,
More frisky the curate, his slave.

It makes the glad spirit still gladder,
And moistens the splenic vein;
When I can't see a hole through a ladder,
It mounts on the sly to my brain.

Then push round the glasses, be cosy,
Fill bumpers to whiskey and whin;
Good luck to each man, while his nose he
Hangs pleasantly over the brim!

There's nothing remarkably odd in
A gent who to nap is inclined;
He can't want a blanket well noddin',
When he's two or three sheets in the wind.

And why should we not have a dance, my friends? Come, let us whistle back the women folk, and we, ourselves, will be content to lead off in Sir Roger de Coverley, with maid, wife, or widow—with A or B, or bright-eyed C, or D, dearest and best. What, are your dancing days over? Well, there is a troop of merry urchins drumming at the door—Open Sesame!—their

lively capers and merry faces will make our old blood flow faster. No music? What matter!—as George says, the innocent and the happy, while the dews of youth are upon them, dance to the music of their own hearts. Bravo girls and boys too!

Merrily danced the Quaker's wife,
And Merrily danced the Quaker.

How these light-heeled and light-hearted creatures would have enjoyed a night at Vauxhall or a pantomime, such as we remember them! But Vauxhall is gone, and Pantomime has taken to late hours and fashionable company, and even Punch has been trampled on and disfigured, in the march of intellect. There is Bartlemy Fair too! Rare fellows were its triumvirate of heroes—Mat. Coppinger, Joe Haynes, and Tom Dogget. What a pity, that Mat should have made his exit at Tyburn! Their histories are too long; so give us another song, Bosky, that may serve for elegy and epitaph:—

Three merry men, three merry men,
Three merry men they be!
Two went dead, like sluggards, in bed;
One in his shoes died of a noose
That he got at Tyburn-Tree!

Three merry men, three merry men,
Three merry men we be!
Push round the rummer in winter and summer,
By a sea-coal fire, or when birds make a choir
Under the green-wood tree!

The sea-coal burns, and the spring returns,
And the flowers are fair to see:
But man fades fast when his summer is past,
Winter snows on his cheeks blanch the rose—
No second spring has he!

Let the world still wag as it will,
Three merry wags we be!
A bumper shall flow to Mat, Thomas, and Joe;
A sad pity that they had not for poor Mat
Hang'd Care at Tyburn-Tree.

As to the Shows, they are poor degenerate things. Do you remember those rare "Recreations in Natural History," George, which won pence and approbation before museums were opened or Zoological Gardens invented? There were to be seen learned pigs, and geese that hummed popular tunes; turkeys dancing cotillions, hens web-footed, and ducks with cocks' heads:—wonderful Turkey rams, as the bills vouched, parcel black hair and parcel white wool, with horns as big as a bull, and a tail that weighed sixty pounds. Now, Bosky, you shake your head as if you questioned that? "Not so, though it is a tough tail, and as George says, such a tail wagged before such a master, must have exhibited the two greatest wags in the Fair. But I have one of Booth's bills here in my pocket, which justifies all you say in favour of the entertainments."

"At Root's booth, Powell from Russell Court, and Luffingham from the Cyder Cellar, in Covent Garden, now keep the King Charles's Head, and Man and Woman fighting for the Breaches, in Bartholomew Fair, near Long Lane; where two figures dance a *Scaramouch* after a new grotesque fashion; a little boy, five years old, vaults from a table twelve foot high on his head, and drinks the king's health standing on his head, with two swords at his throat; a Scotch dance by three men and a woman; an *Irishwoman* dances the Irish trot; *Roger of Coventry* is danced by one in a countryman's habit; a *cradle dance*, being a comical fancy between a woman and her drunken husband *fighting for the breaches*; a woman dances with fourteen glasses on the back of her hands full of wine. Also several entries, as *Amants Pavans*, *Galliards*, *Gavots*, *English Jiggs*, and the *Sabbotiers* dance, so mightily admired at the *King's Playhouse*. The company will be entertained with vocal and instrumental music, as performed at the late happy Congress at *Reswick*, in the presence of several princes and ambassadors."

How Charles Lamb used to revel and luxuriate in the humours of Bartlemy! He was, as it were, to the manor born—and bred too, for he was brought up in the adjoining cloisters. Why uncle Timothy, were you not his companion in those your salad days?—"Aye truly was I, and

many a time have we heard the chimes long after midnight!"

"It was his pet notion to explore the droll-booths; perchance to regale in the 'pens:' indeed, had *roast pig* ('a Chinese and a female,' dredged at the critical moment, and done till it crackled delicately,) continued one of its tit-bits, he had bargained for an ear! 'In spirit a lion, in figure a lamb,' the game of jostling went on merrily; and when the nimble fingers of a *chevalier d'industrie* found their way into his pocket, he remarked that the poor rogue only wanted 'change!' As little heeded he the penny rattles scraped down his back, and their frightful harmony dinned in his ears. Of a black magician, who was marvellously adroit with his daggers and gilt balls, he said, 'That fellow is not only a *Negro man*, sir, but a *neomancer*!' He introduced himself to *Saunders*, whose fiery visage and scarlet surcoat looked like Monmouth Street in a blaze! and the showman suspended a threatened blast from his speaking-trumpet to bid him *welcome*. A painted showcloth announced in colossal capitals that a two-headed cow was to be seen at sixpence a head. *Elia* inquired if it meant at per our heads or the cow's? On another was chalked '*Ladies and gentlemen, two-pence; servants, one penny.*' *Elia* subscribed as the exhibitor's 'most obedient servants,' posted our plebeian pence, and passed in. We peeped into the puppet-shows; paid our respects to the wild animals; visited Gyn-gell and Richardson; patronized ('nobly daring!') a puff of the Flying Pieman's; and, such was his wild humour, all but ventured into a swing! This was a perilous joke! His fragile form canted out, and his neck broken! Then the unclassical evidence of the Bartlemy Fair folk at the 'Crown's' quest. What a serio-comic chapter for a posthumous edition of *Elia's Last Essays*! 'Three little sweeps luxuriating over a dish of fried sausages caught his eye. *This time he would have his way!* We entered the '*parlour*,' and on a dingy table-cloth, embroidered with mustard and gravy, were quickly spread before us, 'hissing hot,' some of the 'best in the fair.' His olfactory organs hinted that the '*odeur des grillons*,' which invaded them was not that of *Monsieur Ude*; still he inhaled it heroically, observing that, not to argue dogmatically, yet *cat-egorically* speaking, it reminded him of *cur-ry*. 'Lunch time with us,' quoth *Elia*, 'is past, and dinner-time not yet come,' and he passed over the steaming dish to our companions at the *table d'hôte*, with a kind welcome, and a winning smile. They stared, grinned, and all three fell to. We left them to their enjoyments; and but before *Elia* had slipped a silver piece into their little ebony palms. A copious libation to '*rare Ben Jonson*' concluded the day's sports. I never beheld him happier, more full of antique reminiscences, and gracious humanity.

"The peace of heaven,
The fellowship of all good souls go with him!"

Would that Bartlemy might be spared, if it were only for its reminiscences! but as Glumfiz the conjuror said, if *rain* must come, good luck send it may be *blue*—so let us chaunt a roundelay.

Major Dom's a comical homo!

Sic transit gloria mundi!

Highly-tighty! frolicsome, flighty!

Soon will Bartlemy Fair and fun die.

Cost of wotley, cap and bells,

Over his bier shall dolefully jingle;

Conjurors all shall bear his pall,

And mountebanks follow it, married and single!

Giants, dwarfs in sable scarfs,

Merry mourners! will not tarry one;

Humps, bumps shall stir their stumps!

And toes of timber dot and carry one!

Harlequin droll the bell shall toll,

Miser Punch shall shrive and bury him;

Tumbler grin while they shovel him in,

And Claron send Joe Grim to ferry him!

Bye, bye! we all must die;

Ev'ry day with death's a dun day;

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,

Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

The prose, too, of Bartlemy was its own, as well as its poetry:—

"Now my little lads and lasses! Shut one eye, and don't breathe on the glasses! Here's Nero a-fiddling while Rome was a-burning—and Cincinnatus a-digging potatoes. Here's Sampson and the *Phillis-tines*—Cain and Abel, and the Tower of Babel."—Ladies and gentlemen, squeaked a little mountebank through an asthmatic trumpet, 'walk

in and see a tragical, comical, operatical, pantomimical Olla Podrida of Smiles, Tears, Broad Grins, and Horselaughs, called The Hobgoblin, or My Lady Go-Nimble's Ghost; the Humours of Becky Burton and Doctor Diddleum."—"Here's your dainty spiced gingerbread! that will melt in your mouth like a red hot brickbat, and rumble in your inside like Punch and his wheelbarrow!"—"And here's your Conjuror Compound, that if you bathe a beefsteak in it the over night, it will come out a veal cutlet in the morning!"—"The fair was lighted up, and the fun grew 'fast and furious,' beginning with a loud chorus of acclamation, and so running on through the whole *Sol fa* of St. Bartlemy delight. There was a blended incarnation of kettle-drums, fifes, fiddles, French horns, rattles, trumpets, and gongs! A giantess of alarming dimensions, beaming with maternal ecstasy! reddened with deeper intensity from her painted show-cloth; and a miniature Lady-monster, a codicil to the giantess! peeped out imploringly from a wine-cooler in which some facetious crowned scone had ensconced her at an after-dinner merriment to his Queen and Courtiers. The Mermaid had a long tail to exhibit and tell. *Merris*, *Rumfiz* and *Glumfiz*, disciples of Zoroaster! began their magical incantations, swallowed knives and forks and devoured blue flame with increased voracity; the Fantoccini footed it with laudable vigour; the Conjuror would have coined his copper now, only, winked the wag, 'I know and you know's 'Je n'ose pas'! the lions and tigers roared 'Now or never!' and amidst this oratorio of discord and din, Harlequin, Othello, Columbine, Sir John Falstaff, Desdemona, Jim Crow, Cardinal Wolsey, and Scaramoche quadrilled on the outside platform of Richardson's Grand Booth, the gong (his prompter's tin-tinabulum!) sounding superabundant glorification."

Well, there is an end of St. Bartholomew—No, no, not so. Here is a volunteer vocalist, that will put out of countenance St. Cecilia on her salt-box:—

Don't you remember the third of September?

Fun's Saturnalia, Bartlemy Fair!

Punch's holiday, O what a jolly day!

When we fiddled and danced at the Bear.

Rumping, reeling it, toe and heeling it,

Ham and veal and it, toddy and purl—

Have you forgot that I paid the shot?

I have not! my adorable girl!

With ranters and roysters we push'd thro' the cloisters,

Had plenty of oysters, of porter a pot;

I treated my Hebe with brandy, not (B. B.)

And sausages smoking, and gingerbread hot.

She whisper'd, 'How nice is fried bacon in slices,

And eggs—What a crisis!—Love egg'd me on—

"My dearest," said I, "I wish I may die

If we don't have a fry to-night at the swan."

How we giggled when Pantaloon wriggled,

And led a jig with Columbine down;

How we roard when Harlequin's sword

Conjur'd Mother Goose into the Clown!

To Saunders's booth I toddled my Ruth,

Saw *Master* and *Miss* romp and reel on the rope—

And it was our fault if we didn't both waltz,

My eye! with old Guy, Old Nick and the Pope.

Rigging's rife again, fun's come to life again,

Punch and his wife again, frolicsome pair,

Footing it, crickey! like Cupid and Psyche,

Summon each run 'an to Bartlemy Fair.

Trumpets blowing, roundabouts going,

Toby the Theban, intelligent Pig!

His compliments sends, inviting his friends

To meet the Bonassus to-night at a jig.

But we are lingering too long at the Fair. Let us peep into Moorfields. In spite of the old libel about the Melancholy of Moor Ditch, it had, in those days, sights worth seeing—

Hills and holes, and shops for brokers,

Open sinners, canting soakers;

Preachers, doctors, raving, puffing,

Praying, swearing, solving, huffing,

Singing hymns, and sausage frying,

Apple roasting, orangeshying;

Blind men begging, fiddlers drawing;

Rare-shows and children bawling—

Gingerbread! and see Gibraltar!

Humstrums grinding times that falter;

Maim'd and halt aloft are staging,

Bills and speeches mobs engaging;

"Good people, sure de ground you tread on,

Me did put dis voman's head on!"

You see that fun may be found in improbable places; so strike up, my comical coffin-maker:

or you, Hatband and Stifleleg, give us a duet:—

HATBAND. When poor mutes and sextons have nothing to do

What should we do, brother?

STIFLEGIG. Look very blue!

HATBAND.
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HATRED. Gravediggers too?
STIFFLEBAG. High "malheureux!"
HAT. Funerals few?
STIFF. Put on the screw!
HAT. But when fevers flourish of bright scarlet hue,
What should we do, brother?
STIFF. Dance fillooloo!
HAT. When blows the north-east, and grim death stalks abroad,
What should we do?
STIFF. Eat and drink like a lord!
HAT. When rages cholera?
STIFF. Sing tol lol lera!
HAT. Colds and catarrhs?
STIFF. Bless lucky stars!
HAT. When the bell tolls?
STIFF. Replenish our bowls!
STIFF. Bleak winter to us is a jolly trump card,
And a fine hot May makes a fat churchyard!

STIFFLEBAG. Should all the world die, what the deuce should we do?
HATRED. I'll bury you, brother!
STIFF. I'll bury you!
HAT. I'll lay you out.
STIFF. No doubt! no doubt!
HAT. I'll make your shroud.
STIFF. You do me proud!
HAT. I'll turn the screw.
STIFF. The same to you!
HAT. When you're past ailing,
I'll knock a nail in!
STIFF. Last of the quorum,
Ultimus Cockolorum!

When you're all dead and buried, zooks! what shall I do?
COCKOLORUM in full chorus.
Sing High Cockolorum, and dance fillooloo!

Your key note was a trifle too flat, my worthy Undertakers, so here's for a chorus:—
We're jovial, happy, and gay, boys!
We rise with the moon, which is surely full soon,
Sing with the owl, our tutelary fowl,
Laugh and joke at your go-to-bed folk,
Never think—but what we shall drink,
Never care—but on what we shall fare,—
Turning the night into day, boys!

But it is time, I fear, to break up: yet, ere we separate, let us have Uncle Timothy's retrospections about Time; poor Old Time, as O'Connell—we beg pardon, as the Lord Mayor of Dublin—says of himself, "Time is the best abused fellow in Christendom."—"Man is ever quarrelling with Time. Time flies too swiftly; or creeps too slowly. His distempered vision conjures up a dwarf or a giant; hence Time is too short, or Time is too long! Now Time hangs heavy on his hands; yet for most things he cannot find Time! Though time-serving, he makes a lackey of Time; asking Time to pay his debts; Time to eat his dinner; Time for all things!"

Old Time.
From boyhood to manhood, in fair and rough weather,
Old Time! you and I we have jogg'd on together;
Your touch has been gentle, endearing, and bland;
A fond father leading his son by the hand!

In the morning of life, ah! how tottering my tread—
(True symbol of age ere its journey is sped!)
But Time gave me courage, and fearless I ran—
I held up my head, and I march'd like a man!

Old Time brought me friendship, and swift flew the hours;
Life seem'd an Elysium of sunshine and flowers!
The flowers, but in memory, bear odour and bloom;
And the sun set on friendship, laid low in the tomb!

Yet, Time, shall I blame thee, tho' youth's happy glow
Is fled from my cheeks, that my locks are grey?—No!
What more can I wish (not abusing my prime)
To pilot me home, than a friend like Old Time?

The worst that can be said of Old Time is, that he flies too fast in pleasant company. We, too, must part—

The lights are dim, so farewell Time,
And Bosky, farewell he;
And when you next shall rove abroad,
May we be there to see.

Rambles in Ceylon. By Lieut. De Butts.
W. H. Allen & Co.

Justice Shallow's approbation of fine phrases most probably ruined Bardolph as a narrator for the rest of his life; he ever after thought more of how he should speak, than of what he had got to say; and when his hearers looked for the statement of a fact, they were treated to the rounding of a sentence. It is a sad error to sacrifice accuracy of description for prettiness of expression; to render the ideas vague, for the

purpose of introducing scraps of poetry and hackneyed quotations: yet to this Lieut. De Butts is prone in no ordinary degree; and, were his subject less interesting, the mode in which he has treated it would, to use his own style, have condemned his work "to rest in cold obstruction." Too little, however, is known of the modern condition of Ceylon, for us to neglect any information on the subject, and we shall, therefore, select some passages from this volume, which contain new illustrations of the state and capabilities of this valuable colony.

The narrow strait which separates Ceylon from the continent, has every appearance of having been formerly an isthmus, which was broken through by some convulsion of nature. The sacred island of Ramiseram, in the middle of the strait, attracts pilgrims from the opposite shores, and thus, both morally and physically, appears to be a monument of their former connexion.

"The natives have a tradition, that the isle of Ramiseram was in other days connected by land with both Hindostan and Ceylon. The rocky ledge extending across the interval of sea between Manar and Ramnad, at the points where the shores of the island and of the continent most nearly approach each other, is, in the opinion of the wise men of the East, the remaining vestige of this ancient isthmus. This opinion is strengthened by the frequent occurrence of islands and sandbanks on the line of the supposed communication; but however this may be with regard to Ceylon, the former connexion of the isle of Ramiseram with the Indian continent is generally admitted. The intervening expanse of sea is not considerable, and its entire width is occupied by a well-defined line of rocks, by means of which the natives are enabled to punt their canoes and fishing-boats from the mainland to the island. On either side of this chain of rocks, and at immediately opposite points, roads paved with large flat stones approach the edge of the water, and seem to indicate that the space now covered by the sea was formerly traversed by this artificial work, which must have required considerable labour and time in its construction. Such, at least, is the belief of the natives, who further assert, that the object of this ground communication was to facilitate the annual transit of the car of Juggernaut from the temples of Ramiseram to those of Madura, a place in southern India."

The Temple of Ramiseram is an immense enclosure, surrounded by a lofty wall. The interior is divided into large squares and rectangles, most of which are occupied by tanks of sacred water, or by chapels dedicated to various deities:—

"The minor temples, which fill up the intervening spaces between these sacred tanks, are generally uniform and simple in appearance. They are for the most part crowned by long tapering spires, which produce a pleasing and peculiar effect. The long galleries connecting these domes arrest the attention chiefly on account of the enormous slabs of stone employed in their construction, and the numerous gigantic images and statues that line their entire length. The statues are those of Vishnu, Siva, and of various other Hindu gods, who are represented either in a recumbent or standing attitude, but for the most part in the latter position. To a critical eye, some of these figures would doubtless appear sufficiently grotesque. A large portion of the interior space is cut off from the rest of the edifice. Into this sanctified place the European unbeliever is not permitted to enter; but from within the sound of music constantly arises, and ever and anon the dark eyes of the vestal virgins, who form the choir, glance beneath the raised tapestry."

The noble harbour of Trincomalee, which affords excellent anchorage, can be safely entered during both monsoons, is secured against the violence of the winds, and easy of defence against the insults of an enemy, is justly deemed the best naval station in the Indian Seas. Indeed, but for its notorious advantages, the mistaken policy which abandoned Java to the Dutch, would have been extended to Ceylon, and the

lords of Leadenhall Street would have escaped the mortifying contrast of an improving crown colony in the vicinity of their stationary, if not declining, settlements.

"The circumference of the harbour may be about nine or ten miles, and when thus viewed from an elevated position, the large and placid sheet of water, with its numerous indentments—the wooded isles that seem to float on its surface—the men-of-war lying motionless at their anchorage—and the rich and tropical aspect of the forests that cover the whole of the inland country—form a landscape, in surveying which the eye never tires, and which must be seen to be appreciated."

To European residents, the station at Trincomalee is chiefly recommended by its abundance of game, particularly of wild elephants, the shooting of which is almost an every-day amusement. Our author declares, that this is not so dangerous a sport as is usually supposed; and that, during the last ten years, only two Europeans have lost their lives in these encounters. Two officers, who pledged themselves to avenge the death of Mr. Walleit, had a very narrow escape: the account of it will help to explain the nature of the sport:—

"On the approach of his new enemies, the elephant regarded them with the utmost sang-froid, and quietly advanced towards them. The scene of this second combat was the same as that of the former. Elephants, if undisturbed, frequently remain for weeks in the vicinity of some favourite spot, which unites the two principal objects of their ambition—good forage and abundance of water. In the present case, the tusker had doubtless reconnoitred the ground with a military eye, or perhaps, not pretending to greater intelligence than the human race, imagined that the site of his conquest was, somehow or other, connected with his good star, for he made no attempt to decamp from the place during the time that intervened between Mr. W.'s death and the appearance of his avengers. Having arrived within a few paces of their object, the sportsmen fired, but without any considerable effect. One of the bullets, however, struck the right eye of the tusker, and by this fortuitous circumstance the life of one of the officers was saved. Weakened by loss of blood, the elephant fell just as he had overtaken this gentleman, and in the act of falling broke down some bamboo trees, which, striking his intended victim, effectually prevented him from making his escape. Fortunately, he was on the right or blind side of the monster, who did not immediately discover the near vicinity of his assailant. At length he got his solitary optic to bear upon him, and was about to give him the coup-de-grace without further loss of time, when Lieut. S. having reloaded, again approached, and by a well-timed and fatal shot, rescued his friend from his perilous position."

One of the most interesting objects in the vicinity of Trincomalee, is the Candelay Lake, which attests not less forcibly than the Egyptian pyramids, the existence of a system of civilization, few or no traces of which can be discovered among the present Cingalese.

"The Candelay lake is situated within thirty miles of Trincomalee, in an extensive and broad valley, around which the ground gradually ascends towards the distant hills that envelope it. In the centre of the valley, a long causeway, principally made of masses of rock, has been constructed to retain the waters that from every side pour into the space inclosed within the circumjacent hills, and the artificial dam thus formed. During the rainy season, when the lake attains its greatest elevation, the area of ground, over which the inundation extends, may be computed at fifteen square miles. This work of art, and others of nearly equally gigantic proportions in the island, sufficiently indicate that, at some remote period, Ceylon was a densely populated country, and under a government sufficiently enlightened to appreciate, and firm to enforce, the execution of an undertaking which, to men ignorant of mechanical powers, must have been an Herculean operation; for, such is the capacious nature of the mountain-streams in this tropical island, where heavy rain frequently falls, without intermission, for many successive days, that no common barrier would suffice to resist the great

and sudden pressure that must be sustained on such occasions. Aware of this peculiarity in the character of their rivers, the Cingalese built the retaining wall that supports the waters of the lake of Candelay with such solidity and massiveness, as to defy the utmost fury of the mountain-torrents. Nearly the whole of its extent is formed with vast hewn masses of rock, to move which, by sheer physical force, must have required the united labour of thousands."

The cutting of roads and the establishment of mail-coaches have produced very beneficial results in Ceylon. At first, the proprietors of coaches were too poor to purchase good cattle, and some of the early experiments in carriage travelling would have furnished a companion picture to Bunbury's caricature of Irish posting.

"Grand equestrian exhibitions were frequently enjoyed by the passengers of those days. Some of the steeds would go, while others, on the contrary, adopted a different policy, and stood fast. In the latter case, the most approved mode was to attach a long rope to one of the fore legs of the refractory charger, and having beat up for volunteers amongst the natives, to haul away upon the same; while one party thus engaged the enemy in front, another detachment vexed his rear with such missiles and weapons as happened to be at hand. The grand object of getting him under weigh was in this manner generally attained."

These scenes have now disappeared, and the superiority of coaches over palanquins is so generally recognized, that the Anglo-Indians would doubtless have adopted the improvement, if their government had given them any better road than bullock-tracks.

Distinction of caste has never exercised the same influence in Ceylon as in Hindustan. An exception, however must be made in the case of the unhappy Rhodias, who are looked upon with even more contempt than the Indian Pariahs:

"Their numbers have, in some instances, been swelled by other malefactors, but their principal supply of recruits has ever been from the ranks of the beef-eaters. The royal clemency did occasionally restore some fortunate individuals to their former rank, but these glimpses of favour were few and far between. The bitter cup of degradation was drained to the last dregs by the wretched Rhodia. On the approach of one of the Goewansé caste, he was compelled to prostrate himself, and form a stepping-stone for his lord and master. Nothing, perhaps, can give a better idea of the utter contempt in which the Rhodia caste were held, than the circumstance of the Whomse objecting to lay hands on some of them whom our Government wished to arrest, but offering to shoot them on the first convenient opportunity."

Under the English rule, the Rhodias have been received within the pale of civilization, and they repay the boon by a zealous attachment to the government that protects them. The scruples of the Cingalese still prevent them from being admitted into the army; indeed, most of the black regiments in the island are composed of Malays, as they formerly were of Caffres. The change was necessitated by the love of the Caffres for their beds and brandy; drowsiness and drunkenness prevented them from shining as soldiers, but they have been more usefully, if less honourably, employed, in making and mending roads.

Anarajapoor, the ancient capital of Ceylon, is now a mere desert, but its stupendous ruins still attract many visitors:—

"One of the principal objects of attraction to the antiquary, who wanders amid the ruins of Anarajapoor, is the Sowamahapaya. The ancient documents relating to the city concur in stating that this was formerly a majestic structure of nine stories. Of these, none are now in existence; but sixteen hundred stone pillars, upon which the building was erected, are still in tolerable preservation. This immense number are disposed in a perfect square, the side of which is about two hundred feet in length. Along each side, at nearly equal distances, forty pillars are ranged. The interval between the rows varies from two to three feet, and the square of the

pillars, which, with few exceptions, are uniform in size and height, is two feet. Around the Sowamahapaya, which was probably a temple dedicated to the worship of Boodhoo, are six Dagobas, or immense solid domes, the altitude of which is equal to their greatest diameter. They are for the most part surmounted by spiral cones, that in some measure relieve the vastness and massiveness of their gigantic proportions. Like the Pyramids of Egypt, they were designed to commemorate the reign of the monarch to whose honour they were raised. In either case, the simplicity and solidity of the construction have defied the ravages of time, and insured its permanence. But the handiwork of the ignorant labourers of Ceylon, though it may rival and even surpass the massive greatness, wants the elegance and grandeur, that belong to the more majestic productions of the Egyptian architects. The Dagobas have a ponderous and ignoble appearance; their magnitude is, however, almost unparalleled, and elicits the admiration or the contempt of the European pilgrim, who may either applaud the perseverance or ridicule the injudicious taste of the ancient islanders. The solid contents of the largest of them have been estimated to exceed four hundred and fifty thousand cubic yards; its greatest diameter and altitude are equal, and measure two hundred and seventy feet."

From these remains of former greatness it is pleasing to turn to the prospects of future improvement:—

"Ceylon affords a striking instance of the triumph of free principles in commerce. Until within the last few years nearly every important article of produce was subject to almost prohibitory duties. During the government of Sir Robert Horton, this unenlightened system was suppressed, and in its place were substituted tariff duties founded on the more enlarged views and commercial principles of the present day. The result has even surpassed the anticipations of the most sanguine; and from the day on which the principles of free trade were applied to the colony, the prosperity of Ceylon may henceforward be dated. One great and unfortunate exception, has, however, been made in the application of the universally just principles of freedom in commercial intercourse. Cinnamon, formerly the staple product of the island, and that for which it was chiefly famed, is now lying under the incubus of the enormous export duty of one hundred per cent. Thus, while the export of coffee, sugar, and cocoa-nut oil is rapidly increasing under the beneficial influence of these fiscal alterations which have been mentioned, the demand for cinnamon, fettered as it is with restrictive duties, has rather diminished than increased, and the trade in this spice will continue to decay and languish until a material change is effected in those absurd and anomalous duties by which its energies have of late been cramped and subdued."

The heavy duties on cinnamon add one to the numerous illustrations of the aphorism that, in taxation, two and two do not always make four; financiers have been slow in discovering that the half may be greater than the whole; but the government of Ceylon has given too many and too recent proofs of enlightened policy for us to despair of seeing the last relic of old barbarous imposts finally removed.

The Latin Poems commonly attributed to Walter Mapes. Collected and edited by T. Wright, Esq. Printed for the Camden Society.

About the middle of the twelfth century there first became manifest in the clerical body that desire for a reformation of discipline and revival of doctrine, which it was the great object of the Papal policy during the three succeeding centuries to baffle, if not to destroy. The revival of learning had taught men to exercise their reason in addition to their memory; opinions were canvassed which had hitherto been received with implicit credence; and authority was questioned, which it had previously been impious to doubt. In England and in France, a large body of the secular clergy began to speculate on the possibility of establishing at least the qualified independence of their national churches: they wished

to recognize the primacy of the court of Rome, but not to overthrow its supremacy; and for this purpose they waged war against the monastic orders, whom they regarded as a sort of Romish militia, garrisoning every country in Christendom to maintain the papal supremacy. Pope has justly described the condition of the human mind when the contest began:—

Much was believed, but little understood,
And to be dull was construed to be good;
A second deluge learning thus o'erran,
And the Monks finish'd what the Goths began.

He has, however, fallen into a common error, when he bestows the praise of effecting a literary revolution on Erasmus.

At length Erasmus, that great injur'd name,
(The glory of the priesthood and their shame,)
Stem'd the wild torrent of a barbarous age,
And drove those holy Vandals off the stage.

Erasmus completed the overthrow of the "holy Vandals," but the war against them had commenced long before he was born.

Walter Mapes, Archdeacon of Oxford, was one of the earliest leaders in the warfare against papal tyranny and monastic superstition. He was a sound scholar, a ready wit, and a keen observer of manners. With Mapes every thought "slides into verse and hitches in a rhyme" so easily and so naturally, that we might almost imagine that he cared not to use prose even in ordinary conversation. He assumed the *nom de guerre* of Goliath, which has not a little perplexed his critics; some derive it from the French *gaillard*, but the character of Goliath is not that of a reckless, joyous lover of sports; Mr. Wright prefers the Latin *gula*, but as little is gluttony the attribute of the hero. It is more probable that the giant Goliath was "the clown" in some of the many Mysteries founded on the history of David; and that, being represented as half bully and half fool, his name was chosen as a proper title for one who assailed establishments by a mixture of irony almost degenerating into buffoonery, and argument which not unfrequently assumes the form of dictation. It is singular that Giraldus Cambrensis, the cotemporary and friend of Mapes, mistook Goliath for a real personage, and branded the fictitious character as a notorious enemy to Church and State, while he speaks of the real writer with great respect and affection.

Greater injustice has been done to Mapes by representing him as the Anacreon of the twelfth century. In the Confession of Goliath, he pleads guilty to a love of tipping in some exquisite verses, from which two admirable drinking songs have been framed: these songs have been universally popular, while the rest of the poem has fallen into oblivion, and hence the words which Mapes puts into the mouth of a profligate monk have been mistaken for the expression of his own sentiments. This is the more unpardonable, as the irony in the song is very far from being concealed; there is a mixture of pedantry and vulgarity, of piety and debauchery in many of the stanzas, which ought to have shown their intention, though it must be confessed that in the flow of the metre and readiness of rhyme there are symptoms of a heartiness of feeling not likely to have characterized the writings of a water-drinker; as the reader may judge from a couple of stanzas in which an attempt has been made to preserve the metrical peculiarities of the original.

And thirdly, I must here confess, when bowls with wine are flowing,
A love for sharing in the sport I ever have been showing,
And still will show, 'till angels come, my term of life well knowing,
And sing their solemn requiem to help me where I'm going.
To die in some good tavern is, of old, my proposition;
The last act of my life shall be a vinous deglutition,
So that the angels when they come, may sing out this petition,
"O Lord, extend thy mercy to this jovial soul's condition."

But though Mapes is best known to us by his Anacreontic stanzas, it was his Apocalypse which

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rendered the name of Goliath formidable to the partisans of the Romish Church, and dear to the early Reformers. Two translations of this popular poem, belonging to different centuries, are inserted in the Appendix by Mr. Wright, and though neither has the easy freedom of the original, yet from them a very fair notion of the sarcastic powers of the writer may be formed. The poem is an imitation of part of the Book of Revelations, but opens with a whimsical account of the classical authors then in vogue, to whom the writer is introduced by Pythagoras.

Here's Priscian the hands of the dullards well slapping,
And here's Aristotle the empty air flapping.
Here's Tully with sweetness our senses entrapping,
And Ptolemy sky and stars carefully mapping, &c.

We may remark, that the grammatical pedants and the dialecticians of the schools were in alliance with the monks, and hence the author gives such a contemptuous account of Priscian and Aristotle. Having introduced him to these worthies, Pythagoras hands Goliath over to an angel, who exhibits to him a vision of four animals—"a lion, a calf, an eagle, and a man." A book is also given, in which Goliath reads the interpretation of the vision, thus rendered in the Bodleian MSS.:-

The lion is the Pope, hee swallows, yawnes,
Hee thirsts for gold, and golden bookes hee pawnes.
Give him a marke, and for Saint Marke a fly!
In toppes fly sailes, in cresses his anchor's lie.
The calf's a Prelate, who runnes fast before,
And where fast pastures hee feeds evermore.
Chewing hee gnawes of what hee best doth know,
And fatts his case with others cates I trow.
The lofty eagle, that soares over all,
Is the Archdeacon, pyrate him they call;
Into the prey hee follows, farre hee pryes,
By stealth hee lives, for wealth about hee flies;
By him that's clad in humane shape, I meane
Him that is full of silent craft, the Deane.
In forme of justice cooz'nage hee doth place;
Coozen the whole world with an honest face.

It would seem that the Archdeacon had been harassed or vexed by his own Dean, for his description of that ecclesiastical officer, in a subsequent part of the poem, is the most laboured portion of the satire.

Reading, I found a man of wicked breed,
Who gaddes abroad, hunts after Venus vaine,
Fowles after infamie, fishes for his gaine.
The man's a Deane, who in a manly case
No man, but poison is, with poison'd face;
Pursuing persons with a powerfull spleene,
Seemes full of lenity, his face is leane.
Archdeacons dog the dean they duely call,
Whose divers canons diversly doe haule.
Hee chants of cannons, cannons disavows,
Sells what's past sale, and Symons trade allows.
The deane's a dog, whose nose is ever good
To smell out gaine that springs from Cupids brood.

Scarcely less popular was the satirical attack of Goliath on the female sex, under the form of 'Advice to a Friend against Marriage.' Three angels, and the evangelist St. John, are represented as coming to dissuade Goliath from taking a wife; and the heavenly monitors seem unfortunately to have despised all rules of good breeding on earth, for their language is beyond measure gross, even for an age in which little regard was paid to delicacy. The least objectionable passage is the conclusion of St. John's speech, which may be thus rendered:-

"For marriage's the gate into hell I assure ye,
And woman sits there in the place of the Fury.
Her brats like wild beasts will all tear you to pieces,
But, worse than the beasts, children's plague never ceases.
No tongue could e'er tell you the folly of wiving.
The labour, the torture, the battling, the striving,
For nuptials at once then get rid of your bias,
And keep yourself single my good friend Goliath."

When thus they had spoken, these angels of glory
Took an oath to the Book to the truth of their story;
And dragg'd me away from my perilous station,
While I gave their sentiments due approbation.

The 'Contest between Water and Wine' is a curious specimen of the incongruous mixture of sacred and profane subjects so common in the Middle Ages. Thetis and Bacchus dispute, in alternate verses, the merits of water and wine before the host of heaven, deriving all their arguments from the various occasions on which these

liquids are mentioned in the Bible. The mode in which the subject is treated renders it difficult to give any specimen that would not be offensive.

Passing over the 'Dialogue between the Body and Soul,' which has been so often imitated that the subject must be familiar to most writers, we turn to the 'Consultation of the Priests,' which has hitherto been little known. In the year 1215 a vigorous and successful effort was made to impose celibacy on the English clergy. Though no friend to marriage himself, Mapes took the part of his married brethren, but probably did not render them much service, as he indulged his mocking humour at the expense of all parties. A part of the consultation of twenty priests, who are supposed to meet in council on the occasion, will show that Mapes was not inclined to spare the feelings of those whose cause he advocated.

One priest arose amid the crowd, which sat at first confounded,
And looking at the faces sad by which he was surrounded,
Said—"By one wife, as you well know, my wishes have been bounded,
And I'll not yield her to the laws our bishop has propounded."
Our vicar took the second place, you know he is no spouter,
But when a battle's to be fought no champion can be skouter.
Said he, "You know I've got a wife—I cannot do without her—
And that my friends is all the speech I wish to make about her."

The third priest then arose and said—"I must confess with shame sirs,
That once a hundred concubines upon me had a claim sirs;
But now I am contented with a single buxom dame sirs,
And I would not for a purse of gold be parted from the same sirs."

The conclusion of the debate contains some bitter allusions to scandalous tales related of the reigning Pope, but they could not be appreciated without more explanation than they are worth.

It is probable that the poems collected in this volume were not all the work of one person; they should rather be considered as expressions of the hostility to the papacy and the monks, which long before the Reformation was felt by a large portion of the English clergy and people. They are consequently of value, as evidences of the early progress of the nation in political knowledge, and as specimens of the literature of our universities during one of the most interesting periods of their history.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Hardness, or the Uncle, 3 vols.—In humble and prosaic imitation of Wordsworth's 'Poems on the Naming of Places' might be given a pleasant 'Essay on the Naming of Books.' Not the least edifying chapter of such a treatise would record the reason or fancy which determined the title of this new novel. Is it to be the first of a family? Are 'Softness,' 'Fatness,' 'Leanness,' and the like, to follow? Our friend, who has such vivid enjoyment in the "Delights of a Dictionary," may here find pretty matter for speculation. Crotchets, however, dismissed—the effect of this novel is by no means proportioned to the cleverness employed in it. New as its name, it is made up of samples from the most approved genera of modern fiction. London life, Irish life, Continental life, and Provincial life, are all in turn laid under contribution. The main incidents involve the fortunes of a man about town, whom the Fates have gifted with an uncle as "cruel and bold" as he of the nursery ballad. Henry De Burgh, the hero, gets into the fashionable quantity of pecuniary difficulties. The Earl of Innismore, his relative, not only most unfashionably refuses to assist him, but melodramatically pursues him with a malignity almost converting hardness from a passive into an active quality. The young man rusticates in a remote village, reforms, and marries the one wise and fair daughter of a fashion-sick family. Meanwhile, the Earl undertakes the guardianship of his sister; and wishes to force upon her for lord and master, "a zion of the nobility," whose sporting propensities and ignorance ought to have made him as ineligible as the discarded nephew. There is nothing very new here, nothing very probable; but the author writes

pleasantly in places, in places with feeling; and we should imagine him to be capable of a far better novel than 'Hardness, or the Uncle.'

Ellen Braye, or the Fortune Teller.—The characters are a widower—a governess—a couple of daughters, and for the same as many lovers—a lost child, whom circumstances transport to the East—and another governess, who, in the main action of her life, is a feeble transcript of Mabel, the gipsy, in St. Leger's 'Tales of Passion.' The scene changes between country and town houses, and ghats and cantonments, the time is our own century, and the probability (we must add, the interest) to seek.

Handbook for Emigrants and others, being a History of New Zealand, its State and Prospects, previous, and subsequent to the Proclamation of Her Majesty's Authority; also Remarks on the Climate and Colonies of the Australian Continent, by John Bright, resident for four years in the Southern Hemisphere. Mr. Bright's long title to his little book, will spare us the labour of describing the nature of its contents. His motto,—

"Haud ignara mali, miseris succurrere disco,"

may also be cited, as indicating the temper with which the author has wrought up his materials.

Reid's Catechism of Astronomy.—We have often expressed our objection to the system of teaching by means of catechisms. If the persons employed as teachers are unable to frame questions, the sooner they are dismissed the better. The use of catechisms leads to nothing but parrot-knowledge; it induces masters and pupils to rest satisfied with words instead of ideas. Mr. Reid's words are besides of more "learned length and thundering sound," than are suited to the class for whose use the Catechism is designed.

Progress of Publication.—It is a custom with us at this season to hunt over our library shelves for such works as from accident or circumstances have been overlooked in the hurry of the past year. With new editions, a simple announcement is generally sufficient; in some cases we shall return to and critically examine the works, the publication of which is here merely recorded; in others, such a marking of progress is all that can be required. Thus of the *Cyclopaedias* and *Encyclopaedias*, we must be content to say, that they are fast drawing to a close. The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* will be completed by the publication of the Index, which may be expected early in the coming year.—The *Popular Encyclopaedia* of Messrs. Blackie is completed. The 21st vol. of *The Penny Cyclopaedia* comes down to *Signet*, so that it will probably be concluded within the year.—The independent *Cyclopaedias*, if we may so call them, published by Messrs. Longman, go on prosperously. We know not exactly how far our report has been brought down with reference to these works, and will therefore mention that *Blaine's Encyclopaedia of Royal Sports* has been some time published: that the first volume of *McCulloch's Dictionary, Geographical, Statistical and Historical*, is complete: The *Dictionary of Science, Literature and Art* has arrived at the ninth part and letter Q; and a *Cyclopaedia of Commerce*, by W. Waterston, and *A Farmer's Encyclopaedia*, by Cuthbert Johnson, have been commenced.—*Savage's Dictionary of the Art of Printing* is concluded, and will be found a sound, useful, practical work. Of *Knight's Pictorial History of the Reign of George the Third*, the first volume, which comes down to the close of the American war, is complete, and three numbers have since been published. A *Pictorial History of France*, has also been started by Messrs. Orr & Co., and three numbers issued. One or two more numbers will complete *Knight's Shakspeare*: the 30th number of *Tyass's Illustrated Shakspeare*, the 9th part of *Knight's London*, the 14th of *Hall's Ireland*, and the 9th of *Quain's Anatomical Plates*, are the last published. The edition, illustrated by Tony Johannot, of *Asmodeus*, and *Manon Lescaut*, and *The History of Napoleon*, edited by R. W. Horne, have been completed within the year. The latter work, we may here observe, avowedly a compilation from the numberless memoirs and histories, with which French literature is overrun, abounds in anecdote, is written with a lively faith in the supremacy of Napoleon, and illustrated with many hundred woodcuts.—Some new works have also started in a periodical race for public favour—

among them Knight's *Store of Knowledge—The Christian Traveller—A Cyclopædia of Domestic Medicine and Surgery*, by Dr. Andrew; and a *Domestic Dictionary or Housekeeper's Manual*, by G. Merle. The first volume is complete of *Sir Henry Cavendish's Debates* (including from May 1768 to May 1770), to which has been added the *Private Journal of John, fourth Duke of Bedford*. The 4th volume is published of *Adolphus's History of George the Third: the 9th Part of Virtue's edition of Fox's Book of Martyrs*—and the second of his *Cook's Voyages*. Many new editions have been published of important and interesting works: the uniform edition of the *Novels, Tales, and Essays*, by Sir E. L. Bulwer, we announced long since, and possibly, but we are not certain, his *Dramatic Works* collected and published in one volume. A new edition of *Lycell's Elements of Geology*, a book which cannot be too strongly recommended to all who desire to study the subject:—of *Carlyle's Sartor Resartus*—a third edition with a clever preface, by Miss Jane Porter, of her pretty romance, *Sir Edward Seaward's Narrative of his Shipwreck*: we have also *Campbell's Specimens of the British Poets*, with biographical and critical notices, &c. compressed into one substantial volume, the whole, so far as facts and dates are concerned, revised by Mr. P. Cunningham.—We rejoice, too, and heartily, to see that the *Poems and Memoir of the late John Bethune*, (see *Athen.* No. 678) has come to a second edition, to which is prefixed a pleasant letter, serving as an Introduction, from James Montgomery: of *Combe's Principles of Physiology*, a tenth edition has been published: a new one, in one volume, of *The Round Table*, by the late W. Hazlitt, Leigh Hunt, and others: a tenth of *Montgomery's Satan*: and a twenty-first of *The Omnipotence*: a second (or complete) edition of *The Laird of Logan*, and of *Faucet's Stenography*: a new translation by Kelly of *D'Aubigné's Reformation*—a cheap edition by Messrs. Black of *Magee on the Atonement*. Neat and cheap editions are now publishing by Didot of popular French works: we have before us *Télémaque*, and the *Fables de la Fontaine*. Mr. Knight has added to his British Miscellanies, a new edition of *Brand's Popular Antiquities*, edited by Sir H. Ellis: Mr. Smith to his Standard Library, *Voltaire's History of Charles the Twelfth*, and *Pope's Poetical Works*—and Mr. Bentley Gilbert Gurney, to his Standard Novels.

We must pause for a moment before we advert to the cheap issue of *Scott's Works*—a beautiful edition, and offered to the public at a price that defies competition at home, and must terribly perplex the foreign pirates. Thus, for example, each novel may be had complete in royal or in foolscap octavo for 4s.1.—an edition of *Lockhart's Life of Scott*, complete in one volume, with portraits of Scott and Lockhart—and, indeed, all Scott's works in a form equally condensed, and at a price equally moderate.

We ought to have announced long since that Mr. David Mushet's valuable *Papers on Iron and Steel*, which appeared formerly in the 'Philosophical Magazine,' have been collected and published with illustrative notes, in one volume of nearly 1000 pages—and that Mr. S. Clegg, Jun. has published *A Practical Treatise on the Manufacture and Distribution of Coal Gas* (illustrated with many engravings from working drawings), from which we shall quote, on the first opportunity, the interesting historical sketch prefixed.

The Philosophy of Storms, by James E. Espy, A.M.—The very elaborate paper on this subject, read by Mr. Espy at the Meeting of the British Association, and given in the *Athenæum* in full, with a diagram, (No. 676), makes it unnecessary for us to do more than announce this publication. We may here add, that a second edition of Col. Reid's *Law of Storms*, with additions, has lately been published.

Books for the Young.—*The Lost Brooch*, by the author of 'The Fairy Bower.'—Here we have an anatomical display of the feelings, fancies, small cares and small intrigues of a knot of young people, the process cleverly conducted, no doubt, and with the laudable end of vindicating truth, and unmasking pretension: but may it not be reasonably asked, how far stories like this, in which every motive is weighed, and every dialogue a discussion with a purpose, are likely to improve, either the heart or the understanding? The heroine, Grace Leslie, is described as singularly guileless and tolerant; but the deeds, nay, the

thoughts of every one around her, are probed and searched and judged with such a deliberate scrutiny, that there is some fear, we think, of the reader losing the benefit of her example, and taking pleasure in a like dissection of the circle in which she figures. We remember no book, by its *animus*, so calculated to foster a prying critical spirit (assuredly no very amiable thing in the young,) since Mrs. More's 'Celebs.' We say this the more emphatically, because it is the very story likely to be pronounced eminently moral by earnest but near-sighted caterers for the young.—A strange contrast to this highly-finished tale of manners and motives is, *The Warning*, translated from the German, a regular romance, *duodecimo* in scale, but Radcliffe in style, of robbers, a lonely inn, and a lost child.—*The Book for all Seasons* is a shabby miscellany, shabby paper, shabby type,—shabby, too, is the wholesale abridgment of Mr. Dickens's two last novels.—We protest that *Every Family's Book of Amusement* shall not amuse our family, if it were only for its chapter on the miseries of gaming, wherein the perpetrator of 'Robert Macaire in England' is laid under contribution for some highly-spiced illustrations. What have the young and happy to do with such over-coloured and premature disclosures of crime?—*The Child's Book of Facts*, edited by the Rev. T. Wilson, embraces every kind of information, beginning with 'Bread, Beer,' and passing on to 'Religious Distinctions,' &c. There is a quantity of information in a crude form, but it wants a better arrangement.—The best work on our list is *A Blue-Coat Boy's Recollections of Hertford School*, by George Wickham: a true picture, so faithfully and pleasantly pencilled, that we might have dwelt upon it longer, were not the imperious bells that are ringing in Christmas, so many reminders to clear our tables, that the literature for old and young, of 1842, may have 'ample room and verge enough.'

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—LORD BYRON'S COMPLETE WORKS, collected and Arranged, with all the Notes, from Scott, Jeffery, Wilson, Heber, Lockhart, Ellis, Campbell, Milman, Moore, &c. &c.—1. THE POETICAL WORKS, LETTERS, and JOURNALS, with a Life, by Thomas Moore, Esq. With Landscape Illustrations. 17 vols. fcap. 8vo., 5s. each.—2. THE POETICAL WORKS, with Venetian Titles. 10 Pocket Volumes, 3s. 6d. each.—3. THE POETICAL WORKS, with Portrait, and View of Newstead. Royal 8vo. 20s.—4. THE LIFE and PROSE WORKS, with Portraits, and View of Newstead by Moonlight. Royal 8vo. 20s. John Murray, Albemarle-street.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—On the 1st of January, 1842, OUR MESS, by HARRY LORREQUER. No. 1. 'Jack Hinton, the Guardsman.' To be continued in Monthly Numbers, with Numerous Illustrations, by H. K. Browne (Phiz). Price 1s. No. 1. will contain a fine Portrait of the Author, after a miniature by Lever.—Also, by the same Author, in 3 vols. 8vo. 24s. cloth, CHARLES O'MALLEY, the IRISH DRAGOON, with 44 Illustrations by H. K. Browne (Phiz). 'Beyond comparison the pleasantest book of our time.'—Standard.—CONFESIONS of HARRY LORREQUER, with 22 Illustrations by Browne, 12s. cloth. Dublin: William Curry, Jun. & Co.; W. S. Orr & Co. London; and all Booksellers.

List of New Books.—Braithwaite's Retrospect of Medicine and Surgery, No. IV. 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.—Hirst's (T.) Music of the Church, in Four parts, 12mo. 6s. cl.—The Cottager's Sabbath, crown 8vo. 12s. cl.—Handel's Messiah, newly arranged by Bishop for Voices and Piano-forte or Organ, folio, 15s. cl.—Howitt's (Mary) 'Which is the Wiser?' 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.—The Harmony of Protestant Confessions, demy, 14s. cl.—The Fairy Bower, or the History of a Moth, new edit. 12mo. 6s. cl.—Robert's (L.) the Young Cook's Guide, 2nd edit. 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.—Poole's (M.) Annotations upon the Holy Bible, Vol. III. royal 8vo. 11. 5s. cl.—Hancorn's Medical Guide for Mothers, &c. 5s. cl.—Arnold's (the Rev. T. K.) English Grammar for Classical Schools, 2nd edit. 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.—The East India Register and Directory for 1842, 16s. swd.—Harding's Short-Hand, 12mo. 3s. swd., 3s. 6d. cl.—The Man of Fortune, by Mr. Gore, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—Mémoires of Extraordinary Popular Delusions, by Mackay, Vol. III. 8vo. 14s.—Elements of Drawing and Painting in Water Colours, by Clark, 12mo. 8s. 6d. cl.—The Golden Gift, being Selections in Prose and Verse, printed in gold, 1s. swd.—Meteorology, or the Perpetual Weather Almanack, square, 2s. 6d. cl.—Jay's Works, Vol. I. crown 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—13s.—The Tongue of Time, or Language of a Church Clock, by the Rev. W. Harrison, M.A. 6s. 3s. 6d. cl.—Vegetable Physiology, New Library of Useful Knowledge, 6d. swd.—The Epicure's Almanack, 1842, by Benson E. Hill, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.—Moore's Eclipse Sporting Almanack, 1842, on plain sheet, 2s., coloured 3s.—Ingram's Improved Calculator, from 1s. to 15s. 6d., 8vo. 8s. bd.—Ingram's Improved Calculator, from 1s. to 500 Yards, from 1s. to 30s. per Yard, 8vo. 16s. bd.—History and Antiquities of All Saints Ward, Cumberland. 8vo. lettered, 12s. cl.—Cicero de Officiis, Cato Major, De Republica, with English Notes, new edit. 4s. 6d. 12mo. lettered, 4s. 6d. cl.—Wallis's New Poetical Cards, in 3a case, 5s.—Crowquill's Pictorial Grammar, fc. 8vo. gilt edges, 3s. 6d. cl.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE pressing duties of the season—the desire to be well off with the old love before we are on with the new—has induced us to defer to the opening of the year, notices of Mr. Addison's History of the Knights Templars—of Frederic the Great and his Times.—Travels in Yemen—and other important and interesting works; and the necessity of going to pre-ma day earlier than usual, compels us to defer till next week, the publication of our annual Index. We shall then give an enlarged sheet of thirty-two pages. We are not sure that we do not adopt this course at the instigation of a little mischievous imp, who suggests that it will strangely perplex our Berlin friends, who are to begin their piratical reprints with that number: we doubt, indeed, whether all Berlin can supply them with paper of that size under a month; and as it is possible that an Englishman's account even of Frederic the Great might subject them to the Censor and the laws, they will in that case have time to take counsel on the subject.

The following is an extract from the letter of our Berlin correspondent, dated Dec. 15:—"Two works, 'Unpolitische Lieder,' by Hoffmann von Fallersleben, and 'Cosmopolitische Lieder eines Nachtwächters,' have been condemned and confiscated here; they contain too many allusions to the public speeches of the King on his accession to the throne, which, it appears, have been entirely mis-understood and misconstrued by the public!—Schelling, whose introductory lecture has just been published, still draws crowded audiences. According to his own account, he has not only annihilated Hegel's doctrines, but offers a system of philosophy superior to any hitherto known!—The Warsaw papers contain an account of the erection and solemn inauguration of a monument in that city, in honour of the 'loyal Poles' who fell in defence of the Russian government in November 1830! This monument, executed in cast-iron, after the design of the architect, Corazzi, is erected in the Saxon Place, the most considerable square of the city. It rests upon an octagonal base of grey marble, the greatest breadth of which is 30 ells (2 feet 1 inch). This base supports a pedestal of cast-iron, 84 ells high, by 10 ells broad, ornamented by eight large lions in bronze, and is surmounted by an obelisk, 25 ells high, 6 ells broad at the base, and 4 at the summit. Four double-headed gilt eagles ornament the four corners of the iron base, and display the Polish arms on their breast. The sides of the pedestal have inscriptions, two in Polish and two in Russian. The front, facing the Saxon Gardens, contains the words, 'To the memory of the loyal Poles, who died for their legitimate monarch November 17/29, 1830!' that opposite King Street records the names of these 'loyal Poles,' seven in number. The inscriptions are repeated in Russian on the sides facing the Saxon Place and Clean Street (czesalji ulicy), and are surmounted by four gilt laurel wreaths. The iron employed in this monument weighs 3,460 cwt., and the bell-metal 4,500 lb. It is guarded by about six hundred soldiers distributed in four guard-houses!"

To our obituary records of the year we have now to add the name of another of the recognized masters of sculpture, though, unlike the great artist whose loss we have had so recently to deplore at home, taken away only after his accounts with fame had been finally wound up, and the chisel with which he wrote them deliberately laid aside.—John Heinrich Dannecker, who has just died at Stuttgart, in the 84th year of his age, was, like Chantrey, one of the children of genius who strike into the true path of their powers by an instinct overbearing the impulse of surrounding circumstances. Against the will of his father, a groom in the service of Duke Charles of Würtemberg, and against the rule, too, which limited the benefits of the institution to the youth of the upper ranks, he succeeded, on a personal application to that Prince, in gaining admission to the School of the Fine Arts, established at the 'Solitude,' a royal castle near Stuttgart; whence, at the age of thirteen, he carried off the prize. Dannecker studied, afterwards, at Paris, under Pajou; and thence proceeded to Rome, where he attracted the notice, and received the counsels, of Canova. His marble statues of 'Bacchus' and 'Ceres,' executed while in that city, procured his admission as a member into the Academies of Bologna and Milan; and on his return to

Stuttgart, he was long employed in modelling for his early patron, Duke Charles. His famous 'Sappho,' executed in 1790, and now at Monrepos, and his still more famous 'Ariadne,' in the possession of the banker Bethman at Frankfort, placed him in the first rank of German sculptors. His works in marble and in bronze are about five hundred in number; and amongst the most celebrated of these may be mentioned, in addition to those already named, his 'Eros and Psyche,' after the well-known Mythos of Apuleius, his 'Minerva,' 'Melpomene' and 'Thalia,' and, above all, his 'Christ,' which employed eight years of his study and labour, and whose conception he is said to have owed to a dream. It is also said to have been against the strongly-expressed opinion of Thorwaldsen that he clothed the figure of the Mediator in flowing drapery, to which, however, he has succeeded in communicating a wonderful lightness, harmonizing finely with the divine attributes impressed on the face. His busts are many,—those of Schiller, Gluck, and Lavater being reckoned among the most remarkable. The frame of the sculptor had outlived the mind which produced, and yet speaks in, these works; and his latter years were spent in the helplessness of second childhood. Of his pupils, the most distinguished is Martin von Wagner, now Secretary to the Academy of the Fine Arts at Munich.

Nor must we close our account of "Death's doings," in the year 1841, without mentioning among his victims the names of M. Luc-Denis Frayssinous, Bishop of Hermopolis, a member of the French Academy, and formerly Minister of Public Instruction in that kingdom; and M. Sylvain Blanchet, Secretary to the Library of Saint Genevieve,—attached to that establishment for forty-eight years—who, after forty-six years of public service, received, in 1839, and in the seventy-ninth year of his age, a decoration, as if to cheapen such distinctions, by exhibiting the moral of their vanity, thus conferred in the very shadow of the tomb, at whose entrance all mortal attributes were immediately about to be put off.

It is generally understood that Mr. W. S. Bennett has just undertaken a musical embassy to Germany: being sent on the part of the Philharmonic Society, to collect new compositions for its performances during the coming season; and in particular to treat with M. Spohr and Dr. Mendelssohn Bartholdy for new symphonies.

Opportunately, or inopportunately,—the reader may decide,—a Mr. Kirk, who has taken out a patent for his invention, has just opened, in the Regent's Park, a specimen sheet of artificial ice for the amusement of skaters. It consists of a composition laid down in the same manner as the asphalt pavement; and the patentee proposes to form a society for the purpose of erecting spacious buildings, within which, frost or no frost, the skater shall be sure of his amusement, and without fear of drowning.

Letters from Munich mention the successful production of a new opera, by the composer Lachner, entitled 'Catherine Cornaro,' and the performance, at the Odéon, in presence of the King and Royal Family, of the *Requiem* and a symphony of Mozart's, by a body of 600 artists and *dilettanti*, in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the death of that great composer. While in one corner of Germany the great ones of the earth were thus assembling to do honour to a greater than they, a curious discovery has been made in another, which shows how many a device Oblivion has for wiping out some portion of the histories that seem best guarded, and setting its inevitable mark upon the memories most cherished. While Royalty has been joining in the great composer's apotheosis, on the one side, on the other, the love that grew at his own humble hearth has been vainly looking for his grave! We mentioned some time ago, that a monument was erecting, by subscription, to Mozart, in his native town of Salzburg, and that the government had determined to raise another to his memory, in the cemetery of Saint-Maximilien at Vienna, where he was buried. In pursuance of the latter intention, the Minister of the Interior, having heard that Mozart's widow was in the Metropolis, on a visit, wrote to request that she would point out the spot in which the mortal remains of her illustrious husband had been laid. To this letter the lady has replied, avowing that she knows

it not! When Mozart died, on the 5th Dec. 1791, she says, the common parish hearse took away the body, and carried it to the cemetery, wholly unintended. Immediately after her husband's death, the widow quitted Vienna, to which she never returned for the next two and twenty years; and all her efforts then, and since, to discover the resting-place of the husband of her youth (the grave in which he has lain for half a century!) had been in vain:—

—'tis decreed
That she shall never find him!"

So, the government, unable to build above his latest dwelling, have resolved that the monument shall be erected on the nearest practicable spot to that in which he died, and whence he was finally removed by the Parish Hearse!

Speaking of monuments to the memory of the illustrious dead, we may mention that the fine fountain which is to bear the name of Molière, at the spot which forms the angle of the streets Richelieu and Traversière, in Paris, is rapidly proceeding to its completion. The inscription is to be in two words—*A Molière*, and the titles of all his plays are to be inscribed on the Pedestal. In the Rue Richelieu was the home to which Molière was brought dying, from his last performance of the *Malade Imaginaire*:—and as the monument of Mozart, in Vienna, is to face the spot in which that greater monument, the *Requiem* was composed, so, in Paris, the *Fontaine Molière* will be situated in front of that abode where the play of the richest and most abundant spring ever opened in the literary soil of France, ceased for ever. As for the grave of Molière, that, too, has its mournful tale, as well as Mozart's; and Hate took better note of the one, than Love seems to have done of the other.

M. Ingres has been elected President, and M. Jarry de Maney Vice President, of the École des Beaux Arts for the ensuing year,—and a public dinner has been given to Paul Delaroche, by 150 of his pupils.

The Brussels papers state that the 'Battle of the Amazons,' of which the sketch is in the collection of the King of Bavaria, has just been discovered in that city, and in fine preservation.

The *Breton* of Nantes states, that a young French traveller, M. Rochet d'Héricourt, is about to attempt a journey completely across Africa, within the torrid zone, like M. Caillé.

The favourite project at present in the east of Europe, is the construction of a railroad between the two Russian capitals. The works will commence in a few months. The road is to pass by Tver, and will have a branch to Ribinsk-Cantonstadt, in the government of Yaroslavl, on the Volga, which town is the general entrepôt of merchandise coming up that river. It is calculated that the port of St. Petersburg will gain much by the construction of this road, which will ultimately be continued from Moscow to Nishni-Novgorod. A railroad of more interest to Western Europe, is that from Bâle to Milan, meditated by the Swiss Cantons. The line projected by M. Wild, passes near Zurich, Coire (in the Grisons), the Splügen, and Lake Como. Part of the journey will be performed in steam boats on the Lake of Zurich, the Linth, and the Wallensee, to Wallenstadt; and again on the Lakes of Como and the Adda. By this line, the journey from Bâle to Milan may be accomplished in twenty-five hours, and that from Strasburg to Venice, in thirty-eight hours. Consequently, by taking advantage of the Belgian railroads, we may go from London Bridge to the head of the Adriatic in 86 hours, or, allowing ten hours for incidental delays, in four days, passing through the finest scenery in Europe.

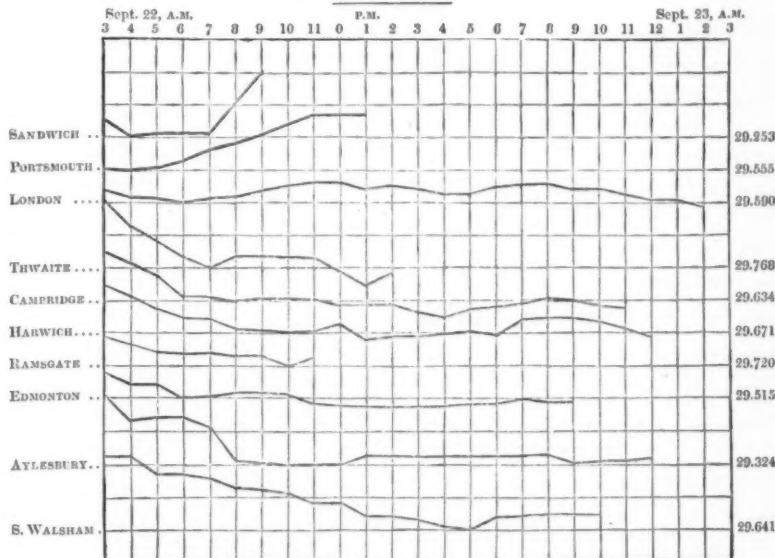
LAST WEEK OF THE SEASON.

PIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.
Will be CLOSED on FRIDAY NEXT, the 31st Inst.

The TWO NEW PICTURES now exhibiting, represent the Interior of the CATHEDRAL OF AUCH, in the South of France, and the SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem, taken from a sketch made on the spot by D. Roberts, R.A., in 1839, with various effects of light and shade. Both Pictures are painted by M. Renoux. Open from Ten till Four.

PROJECTIONS OF HOURLY OBSERVATIONS OF THE BAROMETER.

Made on the 22nd September 1941, commencing at 3 A.M. and terminating at 2 A.M. of the 23rd;
WITH REMARKS BY W. R. BIRT.



The accompanying diagram* is intended to illustrate the notice to meteorologists, inserted in *Athen.* No. 724, and to show the importance of continuing

* It may be necessary to explain that one of the divisions of the vertical lines in the diagram is equal to .040, which is the scale on which the curves are laid down, and that the horizontal lines having the names of the stations placed before them, and the heights of the barometer at those stations after them, are the lines from which the barometric heights are projected, either above or below the particular line, as the case may be. Thus: London—29.590 is the line to which the observations made at that station are referred.

the observations until a complete wave has decidedly passed, as well as that of the observations being made at numerous stations, even at short distances from each other.

The observations from which the curves were laid down, and which were all made in the south-eastern counties of England, were selected from twenty-two series of observations received from the following stations and observers:—

* Limerick Lieut. Wolfe, R.N.
* Capt. Stothard, R.E.
* Wexford Lieut. Fraser, R.N.

* Belfast	Capt. Beechey, R.N.
*	Edward Getty, Esq.
* Gourock, near Greenock ..	Com. Robinson.
* Thurso	Slater.
* Wire Sound, Orkney Islands	Thomas.
Allenheads	Rev. W. Walton.
Birmingham	William Ick, Esq.
Wolverhampton	J. B. Jukes, Esq.
Godmanchester	Robert Fox, Esq.
Sandwich	W. H. Weekes, Esq.
* Portsmouth	Com. Sheringham.
London	J. D. Robertson, Esq.
Edmonton	C. H. Adams, Esq.
Thwaite	G. Whitlecraft, Esq.
* Cambridge	Prof. Challis.
* Harwich	Com. Washington.
* Ramsgate	Capt. Bullock, R.N.
Aylesbury	Thomas Dell, Esq.
South Walsham	Rev. J. Topliss.

For those marked thus (*) I am indebted to Capt. Beaufort, R.N., F.R.S., &c.

In the notice above alluded to, it is suggested that if possible the highest (*maximum*) and lowest (*minimum*) points of the barometer should be observed and recorded, and the observations continued until another highest or lowest point should have been passed. During the observations at the last equinox the barometer continued to fall at all the stations until 4 A.M. of the 22nd, when two *minima* were observed, one at Sandwich, in Kent, the other at Portsmouth. The *minimum* at Sandwich was followed by a rapid and considerable rise .081 in five hours, while at Portsmouth the rise was less. At London the *minimum* occurred later, 6 A.M., the rise being considerably less than at Portsmouth. On the supposition that the *minima* at Sandwich and Portsmouth were occasioned by the trough of a wave passing those stations, the progression of the wave to London is indicated apparently in a direction from S.E.

The five following curves, namely, Thwaite, Cambridge, Harwich, Ramsgate, and Edmonton, are grouped together, as they present many similar features, and it will be perceived that as the stations are situated to the south and west of Thwaite, the curves are much flatter. The *minima* at these stations occurred at considerably later periods than at those before mentioned. The true *minima* at Thwaite and Harwich were observed at 1 P.M., while at Cambridge it did not occur until 4 P.M., and it appears to have been observed at Edmonton about the same time. The observations at Ramsgate were not continued sufficiently long to determine the *minimum*, but it evidently belongs to the system. If, as in the former instance, similar times of *minima* are supposed to indicate the trough of a wave, its direction would have been Thwaite, Harwich, and most probably Ramsgate, and the direction in which it progressed, from E. by N., apparently occasioning the Cambridge *minimum* at 4 P.M.

As the times of the *minima* of the two groups are so different, and as the stations in the latter are so situated that the Sandwich and Portsmouth wave would pass over most, if not all of them, in its progress, it may be inquired if their curves exhibit any traces of the crossing of this wave. Its effects may apparently be traced through the series, as depressions with subsequent small elevations are observable at the following stations. Ramsgate at 5 A.M., Edmonton and Harwich at 6 A.M., Thwaite at 7 A.M., and Cambridge at 8 A.M. The northern stations exhibit the highest waves, with the exception of Edmonton: this wave was probably influenced by the rise at London.

The marked differences between the Sandwich and Ramsgate, and the London and Edmonton curves, are highly interesting, and appear to indicate that the trough of the Sandwich and Portsmouth wave did not extend far beyond Sandwich and London. The two systems of curves before mentioned are very distinctly separated, both by the positions of the stations, and the times of the terminations of the falls of the mercury (*minima*). A line passing between Ramsgate and Sandwich, Edmonton and London, and to the north-east of Aylesbury, appears to be the geographical boundary between them.

The London curve exhibits an interesting instance of the diurnal oscillation, which is very distinctly marked, and the following series of barometric elevations is highly interesting: Sandwich .081, Portsmouth .068, London .025, Thwaite .014, Edmonton .006, and Cambridge .002. These elevations occur about the same hours, and are most probably influenced by the forenoon rise of the diurnal oscillation,

as well as the progress of the wave before alluded to. A series of *minima* occur about 4 and 5 P.M. at the following stations: Cambridge, Edmonton, London, and South Walsham—it has been before noticed that the *minimum* of the Cambridge curve was probably occasioned by the trough of the Harwich wave. *Maxima* were observed at Edmonton at 7 P.M., and at London, Cambridge, Harwich, Aylesbury, and South Walsham, at 8 P.M. These *minima* and *maxima* appear to have been occasioned by the afternoon fall and the evening rise of the diurnal oscillation, and indicate that the atmosphere was comparatively undisturbed at these times. The curve at Harwich, from the *minimum* at 1 P.M., is different from the curves at London, Cambridge, and South Walsham.

The curves at Aylesbury and South Walsham are evidently unconnected with the two systems indicated by the earlier portions of the curves before mentioned, the only point of connexion appears to be in the apex at 8 P.M., occurring at South Walsham. The inability to ascertain if the apices at 8 P.M. were general, or confined to a small area, sufficiently shows the importance of stations being obtained, extensively scattered, and at short distances from each other, even seven or eight miles are not too near, as in the cases of London and Edmonton, Sandwich and Ramsgate.

From a careful discussion of the twenty-two sets of observations that have been received, it appears very important that observers should state as nearly as possible the height of the barometer above the level of the sea, from which some highly interesting results are anticipated.

THE ART-UNION, AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF ART.

[We have, from the first, protested against the principle on which the Art-Union of London was founded. To say nothing of jobbing, to which it so readily lends itself—the large sums of money disposed of, in the purchase of works of art, by persons incompetent to form an opinion as to the merit of such works—which permits the chance winner of a large sum of money to invest it as whim, caprice, or ignorance may direct—must have a mischievous and degrading influence on Art itself. This plain truth lies so obviously on the surface, that, sooner or later, it was sure to force itself on the attention of all who took an honest interest in the proceedings and workings of the Association; and we are happy to find that already the Committee have become sensible that some determinate plan ought to be adopted for disposing of the great and accumulating funds of the Association; “that the vast means placed at the disposal of the Art-Union may be for good or for evil, according as its proceedings may or may not be conducted with impartiality and judgment.” Accordingly, a Sub-Committee was some months since appointed to consider “of the best mode of encouraging the Fine Arts,” and “of working the enlarged means of operation at the command of the Association.” The Report is now before us. Of course the fundamental law lay like a stumbling-block in the way of the Committee; notwithstanding which, they honestly record that it has been urged on their attention by “artists of considerable eminence,” that one or more of the great prizes “should be selected, under the best advice, by the Committee.” This is enough for the present. The admissions of the Committee and of the Sub-Committee, are a great step in advance, and will have their influence on the subscribers; and we have little doubt that the law will, ere long, be modified as here suggested. This ought to satisfy all parties. We proceed, therefore, with good heart to the Report itself, and shall give the substance.]

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE ART-UNION, Consisting of Messrs. Donaldson, Pocock, Haaskins, Godwin, Jun., Goskoin, Haywood, and Morris.

Proceeding upon these general principles, we thought it right, in the first instance, to address a letter to a few of the leading artists of the day, in the several classes, requesting the favour of any suggestions with which they might feel disposed to furnish us, as calculated to further the objects of the Art-Union. We were anxious to avail ourselves of the opinions and advice of those, who, from their rank as Artists, from their love of Art, their education and habits of reflection, were so well qualified to afford us most valuable assistance. The replies with which we were favoured, and the perusal of Sir Martin Archer Shee's admirable pamphlet, entitled, ‘Outlines of a Plan for the National Encouragement of Historical Painting in the United Kingdom,’ suggested to your Committee many subjects, which we reduced to distinct propositions. These we again transmitted to the gentlemen to whom we had already written for their opinions. The substance of the advice which we received, and of our deliberations, we now beg to submit to you.

Owing to the infant state of our Society, we have

not been able hitherto to announce, until the Exhibitions were about to open, the amounts of the prizes that would be obtained by the fortunate prizeholders of the year. The consequence has been, that the members who had prizes, were obliged to seek at random in the Exhibitions for pictures or other works of art, which they should purchase. The result was, that those who held the highest prizes were at a loss to find works corresponding with their expectations and wishes. This defect may be easily obviated by the Society's announcing, each year, the larger amounts of One Hundred Pounds and upwards, to be awarded to the Members as *principal prizes*, to be laid out in works of art in the year ensuing. This would afford ample opportunity for those artists, who felt so disposed, to prepare their subjects for painting or sculpture, &c., of such a description as would be likely to be purchased by the holders of prizes of the Art-Union.

Your Sub-Committee next considered, that, to produce a material improvement in the arts of any country, the first object must be to cultivate the highest departments, for, excellence being attained in them, the subordinate classes will make a corresponding progress, and derive a like advantage. We concur in opinion with one whose judgment in such a case can hardly be called in question,—we allude to the President of the Royal Academy,—that “we should always keep in view, that, to excite the genius of our countrymen to great and noble efforts, is the only object that can make our interference with the arts of our country at all judicious.”

We are encouraged to endeavour to carry out these views by the concurrent testimony of all, whose opinion we have sought, and we are agreed to recommend, that, when the principal prizes for the ensuing year are to be announced at the annual meeting, it should be stated that two of the prizes to be won by the members of the Art-Union will be for the purchase of two pictures, say for 500*l.* and 400*l.* respectively, the subjects to be taken, at the option of the artists, from the Bible, from some incident in British History, or from some English author. In placing a religious subject at the head, we feel that it first commends itself to every well constituted mind, and that the liberality of the patron and the talent of the artist cannot be more worthily engaged than in illustrating some passage of the Holy Scriptures. But, next to this, we desire to mark emphatically the Art-Union as specially animated by the patriotic wish to carry out a great national object, and to enlist British Art more immediately in the illustration of British History and of British Literature.

We have had under consideration, whether it might be desirable that one of these principal prizes should be selected (under the best advice) by the Committee, so as to guarantee an excellent subject for the annual engraving. This proposition has been strongly urged by some artists of considerable eminence, whose opinion deserves every consideration; and the object to be obtained is an extremely desirable one, as it might insure the appropriation of such a considerable sum to the purchase of a work of art of undoubted merit, and render the selection more probably judicious, as being uninfluenced by any personal considerations on the part of those who would have to select it. Hitherto you have found it of the utmost difficulty to make a selection of pictures, calculated to meet the views of the subscribers in respect of the engraving. On the other hand, it has been objected, that so material a departure from the fundamental principle of the Art-Union, which ensures to each prizeholder the selection of his own picture, would hardly be compensated by the advantages, which might result from the choice resting with the Committee, even to so limited an extent.

Your Sub-Committee has been also advised, that the character and usefulness of the Art-Union would be promoted, and the exertions of the artists would receive a much higher reward, stimulating them to greater exertions, if one such picture of the highest class, so selected by the Committee, were occasionally presented to a public institution in a provincial town, containing the greatest number of subscribers, to be placed in some building open to general access, and to bear on it an inscription, stating the name of the artists, the subject, and that it was a donation by the Art-Union of London. Mr. C. L. Eastlake called our attention to the fact,—“that the Dussel-

dorf Art-Union act upon this principle: the Committee of Management have the right of reserving any picture of extraordinary merit, and presenting it in the name of the Society to some national institution. In this manner the picture of the 'Captive Jews at the Waters of Babylon,' by Bendemann, was presented to the public Gallery of Cologne, where it is constantly exhibited to view. Such selections of course are rare." Mr. Westmacott remarks, that we best reward the artist by this public appropriation of his work, and induce others to walk in his footsteps, and thus may advance the higher objects of Art. Messrs. Wyon and Uwins also concur in commending this proposition, as an approach to the real and effective plan for the promotion of Art on public principles, distinct from individual benefit or personal considerations on the part of the subscribers.

In 1837, the first year of the operations of this Society, 385*l.* 9*s.* were expended on the purchase of pictures. In 1841, 3,603*l.* 9*s.* And we find that the five years present a total of 6,448*l.* 9*s.* laid out by the Art-Union, to which has been added by the prizeholders a further sum of 1,324*l.* 16*s.* The attention of your Sub-Committee has been drawn to the fact, that the whole of the 7,773*l.* 5*s.* has been applied to the purchase of pictures in oil or water colours, with the exception during the last year of a prize of 60*l.*, to which the holder added 20*l.*, and bought the marble statue of a Magdalen by Mr. F. Thripp at the Royal Academy. We think that the subscribers generally should be aware, that it is the object of the Art-Union to call into action the skill and taste of our countrymen in every department of the Fine Arts. And we are of opinion, that the General Committee should ensure at all events, a certain portion of the funds to be set apart for the promotion of those branches of Art, which have not hitherto been generally encouraged by the public, but which may minister very materially to the gratification of the public taste, if brought to appreciate their value. We are gratified also in finding, that in this opinion we carry the unanimous concurrence of all those whose advice we have sought. We are therefore prepared to recommend that specific prizes, amounting to 200*l.* and 150*l.* should be appropriated for the purchase of sculpture. And your Sub-Committee are unanimously of opinion, if a reduced model were to be made of some celebrated group or piece of sculpture, to a size fitted for a drawing-room table, and if ten or twenty casts were to be made in bronze, and annually to form a portion of the prizes, it would meet the general approval of the subscribers. This might be done at a moderate expense, a fine work of art of a convenient size would be eagerly sought after, as a desirable addition to the collection of the prince, the nobleman, or the gentleman, and this might be a very efficient instrument in diffusing a taste and love for art in many a family circle. This valuable suggestion they owe to the kindness of Mr. J. D. Harding, and only requires your sanction to enable the Sub-Committee to make a selection at once, and have the bronze casts ready for the next annual General Meeting. Your Committee also think that a specific prize should be set apart for the purchase of an intaglio, cameo, mosaic, or some such work.

We also consider that the Art-Union should assist in the encouragement of medal die engraving; and we can conceive no means better calculated to do this than by commencing a medallic series of the history of British Art. 100*l.* per annum would ensure the execution of the dies of one medal annually, to be of uniform size, to contain on the reverse the head of some distinguished British artist, as Reynolds, Banks, Bacon, Chambers, Wren, Jones, Barry, Wilson, Lawrence, Flaxman, Wilkie, Chantrey; on the other a group, taken from one of his works, if a painter or sculptor, or some building, as Whitehall, St. Paul's, or Somerset House, if an architect. Thus should we at once give some scope to the genius of our countrymen in this important branch, render a just tribute to our departed artists, and best illustrate the history of British Art.

It has also appeared to us desirable, that we should call the attention of our artists, generally, to that dignified simplicity of composition, that calm expression, that purity and correctness of drawing, and severe beauty of form, abstract qualities which, apart

from colour and all effect of light and shade, exist in the compositions on the fictile vases of the ancients, in the outlines of our own Flaxman, and in the composition of Riopenhausen, and some later Germans. We venture to recommend this as a subject worthy your favourable consideration, and consider that we should render an essential service to Art, in its very highest department, by awarding a prize for the best series of designs, in outline, of the class above described, of a fixed size and number; each subject to form a continuous series, and to illustrate some epoch in British history, or some work of an English author. It will be for you to decide, should you approve the suggestion, whether the series should become the property of an individual prizeholder, or whether it should remain in the possession of the Society, to be engraved and published by the Art-Union for distribution among its members.

We are not prepared to submit any distinct proposition, with regard to any enlarged operations of the Society for the further promotion of engraving, as a very material proportion of the funds have been already appropriated to that purpose, ever since the origin of the Society. The General Committee have already paid 903*l.* 10*s.*, and are under engagements to the amount of 1,452*l.* 10*s.* for engraving the five annual prints, from 1836 to 1842, inclusive, making a total of 2,856*l.* But the General Committee will doubtless be prepared to consider favourably any judicious proposition that may be submitted to them, and which may appear beneficial to this essential department of the Fine Arts. Under the impression of the important sphere of usefulness which the artist is called upon to fill in furthering the intellectual development of every class in society, we have been led to consider "how much of public honour and distinction can be devised, in order to give additional point and relish to the grosser stimulants of interest as an incentive to the artist, and to excite, also, in the public mind, some idea of the utility of his functions and the value of his art." We have, therefore, considered whether it might be desirable for the Art-Union to offer, annually, a handsome large gold medallion, designed expressly for the purpose, to be awarded to the author of the best of all the works of art exposed in any of the exhibitions of the year. The medal to be presented in the presence of all the exhibitors, by some member of the Royal Family, who might be pleased to give additional encouragement to the artists on such an occasion, by taking part in so interesting a ceremony. But the proposition is liable to so many objections, and such great difficulty would arise in the choice of a tribunal to make the award, that your Sub-Committee have abandoned the idea, and only mention it to prove, that they have left no scheme unexamined which might, by any possibility, be thought likely to do honour to British Art.

Several of the gentlemen, with whom we have been in correspondence, strongly advise that the Art-Union should have an Exhibition Gallery of its own. But after much consideration your Sub-Committee are not prepared to recommend the adoption of the suggestion at present, although, ultimately, it may probably be advisable for us to have such accommodation at our place of business, as may enable us, when we wish it, to exhibit there our prize pictures, or similar works of art in connexion with our Society.

We consider it to be of great importance, that the members of the Art-Union should always keep in view the disinterested and high-minded purpose for which this Association has been formed, namely, to diffuse far and wide, throughout the empire, a love for Art, and to raise, as much as possible, the standard of perfection for the productions of our native artists; and that whoever may be the successful holder of a prize should, in the selection he makes, consider himself conscientiously bound to apply the funds placed at his disposal, in the manner best calculated to further British Art. "That," in the words of the last annual Report, "they must consider themselves but as stewards of the Association, and endeavour to promote, as much as possible, its highest objects." On the other hand, we would appeal, and we trust not in vain, to the artists themselves, and call upon them to second our exertions for the arts of our common country, in the success of which they have so deep an interest at stake. We implore them to discourage any attempt to divert the funds of this Institution from their legitimate purposes, and to discountenance

any who, instigated by sordid and selfish motives, would endeavour to make the Institution subservient only to their own individual gain.

Such are the leading points which have occupied the attention of your Sub-Committee, and such the recommendations we have to submit for your adoption. We beg to call attention to the fact, that the recommendations herein suggested do not contemplate an increased expenditure exceeding 1,000*l.*, so that, taking into consideration the increased means of the Society, we still maintain a relative proportion of large and small prizes; but we merely subject the former to certain regulations, in order to insure their appropriation to the carrying out effectually the leading features of the Art-Union. It may be supposed, that these recommendations are founded upon a too confident anticipation of the continuance of our Association, looking forward to the lapse of many years for the full development of all its purposes. We must confess, that we entertain the most favourable views of the operations of the Art-Union; and that we feel assured the greater its success, the more permanent its duration. But even if the direction, which it may be the good fortune of this Institution to assist in giving to public taste and to the Arts of the Empire, may supersede the necessity of its continuance; still we feel satisfied, that it is the wisest course to adopt a plan of operations at once upon the most enlarged views. A spirit of public encouragement being once established in this country, and the impetus being once given, every branch of art will be in that healthful condition which will require no adventitious aid to insure its success, and make it contribute to the glory of the British name.

FINE ARTS

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE only print of any pretension before us is Sanders's mezzotint, after Delaroché's well-known *Charles in the Guard-Room*. French pictures, from the unpleasantness, to English eyes, of their tones of colour, bear translating into black and white with little risk to their reputation. But the Charles of Delaroché, despite its high renown, disappoints us, even in the favourable form it here wears, for the mezzotint is a good one. What, if we say that accuracy stands for genius, and precision for invention?—that though the portrait be correct to the shoe-tie, still the expression is rather that of a cowed and chidden child than the high and self-sustained composure of the Monarch? The best heads, in our judgment, are those of the two Ironsides, by the side of the old-fashioned fire-place.

Mr. Martin's *Sadak in Search of the Waters of Oblivion*, engraved many years ago for *The Keepsake*, was one of the first of those works in which he asserted his possession of a new and most poetical genius. We have it here, in mezzotint, by two of his sons;—of course, as regards its peculiar spirit, more effectively rendered than before. Criticism on a subject so well known is needless: we better imagine the artist, fresh from so bold a conception, standing delighted before the work his right hand had dared; now—when so many years have gone, so many triumphs been achieved—regarding it with more than common tenderness.

The stopping of *Master Humphrey's Clock*,—of which more in another place,—makes it reasonable again to allude to Mr. Sibson's *Illustrations*, which, now at their seventeenth number, must of necessity be nearly complete. Truth to say, the praise for extravagance already bestowed by the *Athenæum*, and advertised on Mr. Sibson's cover, among other commendatory notices, seems to be yet more largely merited by these numbers than their predecessors. They also contain some misconceptions of the author's meaning. Where, for instance, did Joe Willet obtain that laced cravat which he wears in No. XII.?—where Mr. Haredale his brewer-like corpulence? There is one very good Barnaby (in the sketch of the magistrate threatening his mother), but the rest are all melo-dramatic. We have searched everywhere for a portrait of that "lady of our affections"—Migga, and found nothing, save a creature in No. XVII., as near to the real denouncer of "paganism" as Mrs. West in her highest flown fits of romantic passion would be to Miss Deborah Woodcock—that quaint and peppery specimen of virginity. On the whole, these

illustrations can never supersede the comfortable little pictures introduced by Browne, as part and parcel of the original work. We may here also notice certain *Outlines to Mr. R. Montgomery's 'Woman,'* as another "gloss" on a book already popular—but on no other pretext. They are published, it seems, by some zealous amateur, with the benevolent intention of aiding the missionary cause. We fear the will has been more earnest than the deed may prove efficient.

Two portraits, belonging to the time, come next. The first is Mr. Ryall's delicate copy of Mr. Ross's delicate miniature sketch of *H. R. H. the Princess Royal*. All has been done that could have been expected, were there no Prince of Wales to set artists, rhymesters, and quadrille-mongers to work. Another reasonable print is Mr. Lane's lithograph of *Miss Adelaide Kemble* in the character of "Norma," one of the best of his stage portraits. Though his hand be sometimes timid, it is always faithful—and here more so than usual; the likeness is good as regards expression, whether of feature or of attitude.

Our last cares for the year are to announce two lithographs; one of *Mount Egmont*, by Allom and Henphy, a striking glimpse into a new world: another, by Messrs. Ireland and Falconer into "a world destroyed," it being an interior view of the *Armoury of the Tower*, after the recent fire.

MISCELLANEA

Academy of Sciences.—Nov. 29.—M. Ducros presented to the Academy a memoir on certain functions of the skin, occasioned by the experiments on the effects of compressed air, as witnessed in the apparatus used by M. Triger in the coal-pits on the Lower Loire, (see *ante*, p. 934).—M. Paravez read some remarks on the Travels of Lieut. Wood to the sources of the Oxus. They applied to the elevation of the Plateaux of Pamir, and to the physical characteristics of its inhabitants, which showed that they belonged to the same race as the Miao-Tse, or the people of the south-western portions of China.—M. Mauduit read a memoir on the Troas and the shores of the Hellespont, in which he made several observations on the metals used by the ancient Greeks, in the Trojan war. He was of opinion, that in no case was any defensive arm made by them of iron, and that the only use made of this metal was for arrow heads, axes, and maces. In all other cases, either copper was used, or else a mixture of copper and iron.—M. Sorel communicated a memoir on the means of compressing air and gas, especially the latter, which he effected by the intervention of water. This being a non-elastic body, and much denser than air, was better calculated for compressing gaseous vapours. He also communicated a method of compressing air to any degree required.—M. Dumas read a memoir, on the method of Messrs. Elkington and Ruolz, for fixing all kinds of metals on other metals by the galvanic process, without the intervention of mercury.—Dec. 6.—M. Brullé addressed to the Academy some observations on a new method of classifying insects.—Lieut. de Chambrier presented, with the authorization of the Minister of Marine, a memoir on a method of regulating the movements of ships of war under all circumstances, especially during action. He proposed to place in the fore part of a ship, below the water line, a cylinder of strongly compressed air. On either side this cylinder communicated with the exterior of the vessel by means of a pipe traversing the ship's side perpendicular to the keel, but opening under the water in a direction nearly parallel to the keel. The compressed air would be allowed to escape through these pipes by means of valves, regulated at pleasure; and the impulse given to the water by means of the compressed air would impart a motion to the head of the ship. A Commission, composed of Admirals de Freycinet, de Bontemps, and Roussin, was appointed to examine and report.—M. Berton laid on the table a fragment of a tree, cut in the forest of Eu, in the interior of which the impression of a crucifix was found. One of the Secretaries observed, that various objects, and impressions of objects, have been found in the heart of timber trees. Objects, on becoming accidentally attached to any wounded part of a young tree, are easily grown over by the fresh bark, and thus become

permanently enveloped within the coats of wood which ultimately grow over them.—M. Longchamps forwarded a memoir on the best means of giving corn to horses. He contended, that if the corn was given in grain, a considerable portion of each grain escaped the action of the digestive powers; whereas, if partially ground before given, it afforded a greater quantity of nutriment. He was of opinion, too, that potatoe flour might be advantageously used as a partial substitute for corn-flour for horses.—M. Robert sent in a paper, containing some observations on the habits of swallows in Southern Russia. He had found, among other curious circumstances, that the upper surfaces or roofs of the holes, which these birds bored in the sand cliffs on the banks of the Volga, were covered with a kind of animal glue. This substance was found to be of a fishy origin, and was believed to be the spawn of fish, principally the sturgeon, which abounds in that river. The birds find it floating on the water, and apply it to this use, with the intention, most probably, of preventing the loose sand from falling in upon them.—A paper was read by M. Blondeau de Carolles, on the sinuities, contractions, and contortions, which have been found to have been occasioned in the copper tubing of the Artesian well of Grenelle, by some unknown cause. He was of opinion, that it arose from the presence of the water within the tube, some recent experiments on water in such circumstances having induced him to conclude, that the pressure so exercised was very irregular.—M. Chuard submitted an apparatus called by him a *Gazoscope*, for ascertaining the presence of explosible gas in coal mines.—M. Bouvard, Jun., of the Observatory, communicated a list of observations on meteoric bodies (falling stars) between October 1840 and 1841. During eighty-six days he had observed 572 of these bodies.—Dec. 13.—The nomination of a candidate for the vacant Professorship of Entomology in the Museum of the Garden of Plants, took place to-day. M. Milne Edwards obtained thirty-five votes, M. Strauss five, and M. Guérin Menneville one.—M. Regnault communicated a correction of what is termed the "co-efficient" of the arithmetical formula used in calculating the expansion of gas. This had hitherto been taken at .00375, but he had ascertained that this was too large, and that it should be reduced to .00366.—M. Pelouse communicated some observations on the combinations of lead with various substances, and gave an account of the methods of making ceruse used in France, Holland, and England.—M. Piolet read a memoir on the improvements effected in modern days on means of transport, whether by railroads or by steamboats. In advertent to steamers, he condemned the construction of vessels of such gigantic dimensions as the English Transatlantic boats. These he compared to the immense pieces of artillery cast in the earlier days of the use of gunpowder, but which were now greatly modified, or laid aside.—M. Boudin sent a memoir on the absence of typhoid fevers and complaints of the lungs observed among soldiers who had been in Africa, and were now garrisoned in Marseilles. Since August, he had received into the wards 745 soldiers, who had been sent home from Africa either invalided or convalescent. The greatest number of them were suffering from the consequence of intermitting fever or diarrhoea. During this time, the diseases prevalent among the garrison were typhoid fevers and complaints of the lungs, but of the soldiers from Africa, not one was attacked by those maladies. M. Boudin mentioned that he had substituted for sulphate of quinine minute doses of arsenic acid—not more than the hundredth part of a grain—with perfect success.

Ancaster.—A carpenter, whilst digging a hole for a gate-post at the south side of the town, found several hundred pieces of ancient coin; on being examined, it appeared they were chiefly of the date of Constantine; being found in a sandy soil, they were for the most part very perfect. There was no appearance of an urn.—*Boston Herald*.

To Correspondents.—S. I. R.—G. L. R.—F. M. E.—received.—If the Editor of the *Devereport Telegraph* knew how indignant some of his honest townsmen are at his taking articles from the *Athenæum* without acknowledging it, he would doubt even the policy of doing so.

Erratum.—In p. 980, col. 1, line 8 from the bottom, for "four" read twenty-four.

In the press, and speedily will be published, **ENGLAND IN 1841**. By F. VON RAUMER, Professor of History at Berlin, &c. Translated from the German by H. J. LLOYD, Esq. Being a Sequel to 'England in 1835,' by the same Author. London: John Lee, 49, West Strand.

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